VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19430

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1996 FISLEV 4, 5757 5 RAJAB (4)



Palestinian children march in Hebron yesterday to mark Palestinian Independence Day, declared eight years ago by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. While the IDF has dramatically scaled down its presence in most of Hebron, soldiers shadowed the marchers.

IJournalists accused of that ffering bribes docufor 'dirt' on people letanyahus out afichal YUDELMAN

theris the beginning of gossipgate? And just how far will Israeli journalists stoop for the inside dirt and we do mean dirt - on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahir and

According to Edna Halabani, union leader of workers in the Prime Minister's Office, certain journalists have tried to buy "juicy details" about Netanyahu and his family from workers in the office.

In an interview yesterday with Radio's Razi Barkai, Nabani said Israeli journalists re offered huge amounts of mey, sometimes several thou-

sand dollars, for information about the prime minister's breakfast or how many times "little Yair [his son] washed his hands today." "They call our workers and start

questioning them, offering us money, wishing to know all kinds of things about Mrs. Netanyahu what she was wearing, what she wanted, what the prime minister ate for breakfast and what he says to Sara. It has simply gone out of control," Halabani said

"I have served under several prime ministers and I have never seen such behavior, such interests by journalists in the private life of a prime minister and his family, she said. "I don't belong to a political party and I am not the prime minister's spokeswoman. has occurred in recent weeks, the efforts by the media to obtain information, passes all boundaries and has even broken the law."

She said the journalists refuse to give their names or for whom they

Halabani said she has not filed a complaint with the police because (Continued on Page 2)

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SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	4:04 p.m.	5:18 p.m.
Tel Aviv	4:22 p.m.	5:20 p.m.
Haifa	4:12 p.m.	5:17 p.m.
Beersheba	4:19 p.m.	5:17 p.m.
Ellat	4:23 p.m.	5:24 p.m.



High Court okays physical pressure against Jihad member

EVELYN GORDON

request to be allowed to use physical pressure to interrogate a man suspected of having critical infor-

Mohammed Hamadan is a known Islamic Jihad activist. He was one of the deportees to Lebanon in 1992 and has spent much of his time since under

THE High Court of Justice acced- arrest or administrative detention. On October 7, he was put in deten tion again, but was transferred to the General Security Service for interrogation on October 24.

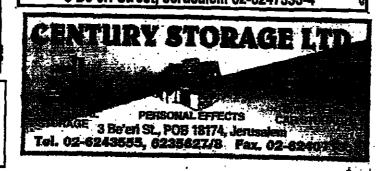
On Tuesday, he petitioned the High Court for an injunction against the GSS's interrogation methods, and a day later the state consented, saying the GSS did not intend to use physical force (Continued on Page 2)





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Hot pursuit' issue delays Hebron deal

BATSHEVA TSUR and JON IMMANUEL

INTENSIVE diplomatic activity continued last night, as Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams sat down to hammer out the lastminute details of the Hebron redeployment agreement.

We are at the endgame," a senior government source said last night, "but it is unlikely that we will see an agreement by [today].' Officials in the Prime Minister's Office said the cabinet - which has to approve the agreement would devote today's weekly

meeting to other matters. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu - who canceled his trip to the US to oversee the sensitive finish to the negotiations - spoke last night with US President Bill Clinton, updating him on the latest round of negotiations. Late Wednesday night, US Middle East peace talks coordinator Dennis Ross stopped off at Ben-Gurion Airport, on his way from Cairo to Washington, for



Sources said there was no attempt on the part of the Americans to put pressure on Israel. "Clinton knows that it is the Palestinians who are holding up the agreement," they said.

When Netanyahu called Jordan's King Hussein yesterday to wish him a happy birthday, he asked him to press Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to move forward on the agree-ment. Hussein reportedly replied: "The best gift I can get will be an agreement on Hebron."

A short while later, Hussein phoned Netanyahu back to report on his conversation with Arafat.

The negotiations continued at the ferusalem office of Yuzhak Molcho, Nesmyahn's legal advis-er. But the senior source said they were treading water until orders arrived from Arafat. Although a meeting between Netanyahu and Arafat is in the offing, it will not take place "until there is agree-ment," the source added. The source defended the pro-

posed agreement, saying it had improved conditions for the Jewish settlers over that worked out by the previous government.

Improvements include: agreement on the height of Palestinian buildings around the Jewish quarter,

• the establishment of 300meter-deep buffer zones where armed persons are barred and large crowds can only enter with • joint patrols and separate

Israeli armed patrols in the buffer

moving four police stations, where the Palestinian Police can keep their weapons, to a distance of 1 kilometer from Jewish settle-

The main stumbling block to finalizing the agreement, the source said, continues to be the question of hot pursuit by the IDF into the H-1 area, the 85 percent of the city exclusively controlled by the PA.

In advance of redeployment, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said the army and police have been ordered to send in necessary forces into Hebron to prevent friction between Jewish and Arab residents of the city.

In Hebron, the two battalions which are normally positioned there have been reinforced to a reportedly 1,000-member force, including female riot police.

Almost everything in the Hebron talks except hot pursuit has been settled, and the gap on this matter has narrowed to whether the IDF, after an attack, can unilaterally chase terrorists into areas controlled by the Palestinian Police, Palestinian sources close to the talks said.

Another issue is a Palestinian (Continued on Page 14)

The final hours before redeployment

A KLEZMER band escorts a bar mitzva boy from Givatayun and his entourage of 300 friends and relatives down the steps of the Machpela Cave in Hebron yesterday.

Down the street, Noam Arnon, a high-profile leader of the Hebron settlement, wades into a crowd of Palestinians, and an animated discussion begins. Hands are clasped, wrists are grabbed. It looks like a lively discussion at a Betar Jerusalem soccer game.

These are not scenes we have come to expect in this town, not at this time. But it is all part of the carnival feeling that that has gripped Hebron in these days - or is it hours, or is it minutes - before the IDF redeployment

A Palestinian yells at Amon to tell Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to ease the clo-

"We also want you to be able to work,"

Amon replies. "But there are terrorists here." "There are Jewish terrorists as well," a Palestinian shouts back. "When the Palestinians take over security, there will be security here."

Cameras are whirling, microphones recording it all. Indeed, it is the cameras and microphones that are providing the background music, blurring the distinction between what is real in Hebron, and what is not.

The hours leading up to the final redeployment agreement have brought to the town all kinds of people who generally would not be there. Politicians, journalists, tomists, bar mitz-va cintourages. Jewish Cowboys - people like Mordechai Levy, head of the Jewish Defense Organization in New York, who says that his

iob in the US is to protect Jews, to be an army of soms for American Jews.

It's Levy's first time in Hebron. "Where's the Jewish neighborhood," he asks? Then he answers himself, "There is no Jewish neighborhood. It's all mixed, not like Brooklyn.' All eyes are on Hebron, and many of the residents, both Jews and Palestinians, are revel-

One goes to Hebron expecting to be able to touch the tension. But it's not like that, at least it hasn't been like that over the last few days.

ling in the attention. People like attention, and

True, there is tension on the faces of the police when they walk a dignitary - yesterday it was Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon - through the city's streets. They finger their guns and look nervously at the buildings.

(Continued on Page 14)

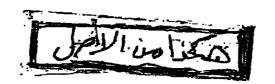
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Ministers demand time to review deal

SARAH HONIG

TALK of a nearing agreement on Hebron redeployment has spurred demands by ministers to see the agreement and to be permitted to study it carefully prior to being asked to approve it.

This demand is now being voiced primarily by those ministers who are most opposed to the agreement, but it also has come from some on whom Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu can count to ultimately support it. It is still not clear whether he

will submit the agreement to the Knesset for approval.

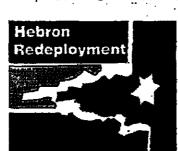
Netanyahu yesterday met with the National Religious Party's two ministers, Zevulun Hammer and Yitzhak Levy, after another meetmg a day earlier with the NRP Knesset faction ended acrimoniously. But Netanyahu could not allay the NRP ministers' anxiety yesterday either, nor did he suc-

how they would vote. "I hope that the agreement will be so good, will so well secure the safety of Hebron's Jewish community and will so satisfactorily ensure its future development and growth that we will be glad to vote for it." Hammer said, tongue in

"But the fact is," he went on. "that we just don't know right

"We have not seen the agreement and we hope that we will get to see it before we are asked to vote. We also hope that no moves will be made before we have a chance to vote. We have an undertaking from the prime minister that we will get to vote on the agreement even before it is ini-

"The NRP has been a loyal coalition member and we think that it is only fair that we are not.



especially considering the deep significance that Hebron holds for

Yisrael Ba'aliya has given no signal that it may vote against the but Absorption agreement. Minister Yuli Edelstein demanded yesterday not just to see the agree-ment but to "be assured that no vote would take place before the ministers are given ample time to carefully peruse the text of the agreement and study it thoroughly. We cannot be asked to humledly glance at papers without consider-

reading. Issues that are extremely MK Michael Kleiner (Gesher). weighty and matters of life and death hang in the balance." On the Likud side, Science

Minister Ze'ev Binyamin Begin curtly noted that he "has no idea of what is in the agreement. Why should I know - I am only a minister in the government."

The one bit of good news coming

Netanyahu's way from his coalition partners yesterday was provided by Tsomet, thus far considered a possible source of opposition to the deal. But after a meeting with the Tsomet Knesset faction he was assured of its support, "not because we are dealing with anything ideal but with what is most likely the least of all the evils bequeathed us by the previous, reckless Labor government," said Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled. On the parliamentary level, Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee

Uzi Landan (Likud) said he would

vote against the agreement, as did

weapons held by the Palestinian Police.

who described what is about to happen in Hebron as "a sad milestone in the history of Zionism. This is a retreat from the City of the Patriarchs, a place to which we are as closely attached as Jerusalem. This is not something to which I can give my approval. For me this is a matter of con-

Sources close to Netanyahu said: last night that if he camot count on a coalition majority for the agreement, Netanyahu will not bring it to the Knesset's approval. He does not want a repeat of the fate of the Camp David agreement, which depended for its ratification on the Labor opposition. Netanyahu could argue that the agreement was already ratified by the Knesset when it approved the Olso Accords under the Labor government. All that is happening now, according to this line, is the implementation of what the House had approved already.

Steve Rodan

Barak to NRP and Tsomet: Let's topple government

MICHAL YUDELMAN

LABOR MK Elmd Barak, who is many for party leadership said stelday that he would try totop ie the Nemiyahn government Religious Party and Tsomet to join

Barak said if he could be assured that at least 10 coalition MKs would vote against the [Hebron] agreement, he would submit a motion of no-confidence for "the good of all of us and for the good of the process of bringing real peace and security to Israel.

This government is bad for the

nation of Israel, not only for the Jews," he added.

A source close to Barak said he meant to signal to Netanyahu that "there are no more safety nets. Neumyahu can no longer take Labor for granted to help him out of all his shortcomings and support him just because he says he's going to continue the peace

Barak came out strongly against the idea of forming a national unity government as a = way of ensuring a wide public consensus R:r the Hebron redeployment.

HIGH COURT

(Continued from Page 1) against him at that time... Yesterday, however, the state filed an urgent request for the cancellation of the injunction. saying it had obtained new information which made an immediate and intensive investigation imper-

"[There is] a well-founded suspicion that the petitioner has extremely vital information would help save lives and prevent severe terror attacks in Israel. There is a real fear that [these attacks are to be carried out imminently," attorney Shai

Nitzan wrote in the request. At the hearing, Nitzan rejected the elaim of Hamadan's lawyer Andre Rosenthal, that the GSS's methods constitute torture. But even if Rosenthal were right, he said, this is a classic case in which

evel normally forbidden methods would be justified to save lives. "No enlightened nation ... would agree that hundreds of people should lose their lives because of a rule saying 'torture' is forbid-

den under any circumstances," he

Justices Aharon Barak, Mishael Cheskin and Eliahu Mazza agreed with this premise, though they clearly had reservations about the way the GSS sometimes uses it. After pressing Rosenthal as towhether he also agreed and receiving an equivocal answer -Rosenthal said that while part of him "tended to agree." he is concerned about the slippery slope

problem - Cheshin exploded. That's the most immoral stance I've ever heard!" he exclaimed "How can you say such a thing? In my opinion, you must agree!"

NETANYAHU

(Continued from Page 1) she does not know who the callers are and does not want "to make

waves. In recent months various details concerning the Netanyahu household have been published in the national and local press. They included Sara Netanyahu's allegedly obsessive hand washing, cruelty to household help and overbearing behavior toward her husband. There were also reports of her tendency to call workers from his office to do household chores at odd hours of the day or

Once she reportedly called a maintenance worker well after midnight to hook up the video cassette recorder, because "if Yair wakes up in the morning and finds it disconnected, he will be upset." She also sent workers to

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buy her things from the market. Halabani was mavailable for comment yesterday, and the secretary of the union said she was home sick. Nor were other workers available for comment. "It's a problem on Thursday," the secretary said, adding that not many people work on that day.

Yediot Aharonot diplomatic correspondent Shimon Shiffer told Army Radio that journalists are not always "pure as the driven snow, but in this case at least, it wasn't us who started. The prime minister and his wife have no one to blame but themselves for penning their home and privacy by the press. It was they who niewis, photographers to take shots 929 3 children and cover their morprece

Shiffer said he believeies, media are having second t and that both sides have at last their lesson and are setting Raby

Another journalist noted the acuwas Netanyahu who ran bod Channel 1's Mabat news a few years ago to reveal his marital infidelities to the nation, thus setting a new media norm.



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Thursday, November 21st,

10:00 - 10:30 Opening Remarks: Mr. Jan Senkyr, Deputy Representative of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Prof. Ephraim Yaar, Head of the Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research

10:30 - 12:30 First Session Moderator: Prof. Arie Nadier Prof. Yaron Ezrachi

The Clash Between the Civil and Consumer Cultures in Israel **Prof. Eve Etzioni-Halevi**

Dr. Tamar Hermann Trends in the Israell Jewish Public Opinion on the Osio Process and its implications Discussion

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 - 15:30 Second Session Moderator: Prof. Yochanan Peres

Prof. Menachem Friedman Secular-Religious Relations Against the Background of the Peace Negotiations Mr. As'ad Ghanem Palestinians in Israel: Part of the Problem and not of the Solution; The Question of their Status if Peace is established

Prof. Ephraim Yaar The Differences between the Jewish and Arab Perceptions of the Peace Discussion

15:30 - 16:00 ;Coffee Brêsk

16:00 - 17:30 Third Session Moderator: Prof. Ephraim Year Prof. Moshe Semionov The Future of Internal Divisions in Israell Society

The Israell Economy - New Possibilities? Discussion

09:30 - 12:00 Fourth Session Moderator: Prof. Noach Levin-Epstein

Dr. Yotam-Peri-Relations Between the Army and Society in a Post-War Era Dr. Yitzhak Shnel Changes in the Territorial Organization of Israel Prof. Benyamin Neuberger Peace and the Quality of Democracy in Israel

The symposium will take place on Thursday and Friday, November 21-22, 1996 at the B'nel Zion Auditorium at Beit HaTfuzot (Diaspora Museum), on the Tel Aviv University campus. Entrance at gate Nr. 2

The Lectures will be simultaneously translated into English

Settlers' Council to protest redeployment plan

THE Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza is scheduled to protest the Hebron redeployment plan this morning in front of the Prime Minister's Office. This will be the first time the council will actively

protest against the government. Council chairman Pinhas Wallerstein said that the plan that is to be approved by the Netanyahu government is worse than the previous one agreed upon by the Labor government.

The purpose of the protest, said a council official, is "not to bring down the government, but rather to strengthen the government's hand, to call upon it to live up to

its campaign promises." The council had scheduled a series of protest actions last week, but cancelled them after meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. This time the council agreed that, with the

redeployment apparently so close, the time had come to take action. However, beyond tomorrow's protest, nothing else was

According to the council, the main problems with the Hebron plan is that it does not give the IDF the right to operate throughout the city; the Jewish enclave is not allowed to develop beyond the addition of a dozen or so new apartment units; and all the land that belonged to the Jews before the 1929 massacre is to be turned

over to the Palestinian Authority. While the settlement council leaders were concerned that the plan will choke off development of the settlement in Hebron, Kiryat Arba head Zvi Katzover proudly told visiting Knesset speaker Dan Tichon yesterday that 90 of 180 apartments made

available for sale in his settlement were sold over the previous

According to Kiryat Arba spokesman Tzuriel Popovitch, half of these apartments were sold to people from inside the settlement and half of them to people from outside Kiryat Arba.

The units were sold from apartment, to \$75,000, for a small home. Contracts were signed, Popovitch said, but the final terms have not been worked out pending attempts by settlement leaders to get the territories declared a preferred development area, which means that the mortgage terms there would be better.

The 90 apartments sold in Kiryat Arba are part of the 3,000 units in the territories, frozen by the previous government, that the Netanyahu government last month said it would free up for sale.

Winning cards and numbers

Mordechai says Hebron accord is

better than what Peres agreed to

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday defended the

approaching accord on Hebron, saying it provides greater security to

its Jewish residents than the one agreed to by the previous Labor

"It's not the same agreement," Mordechai told reporters after addressing a seminar of the United Kibbutz Movement in Ramar

Efal. "We insisted on several key things." They included, he said,

freedom of action by the IDF throughout Hebron and a restriction on

"It's not ideal but these things are important considering the limits of

Mordechai also said the agreement will allow the Jewish commu

nity of about 400 people to remain in the city, with room for devel-

The defense minister acknowledged that the Netanyahu govern-

ment was limited in its attempts to improve the Hebron accord com-

pleted, but never implemented, by the Labor-led administration. "There's an accord that's signed," he said. "I don't like it, but it's

the agreement [drafted by the previous government]," he said.

The winning cards in yesterday's Chance draw were the seven of spades, eight of hearts, eight of diamonds and ace of clubs. In yesterday's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, ticket number 042862 was good for NIS 1 million, while the holder of ticket mumber 568236 won a car. Tickets numbered 299232, 775806, 846826, 622627, 407927, 010772, 204735, and 145663 all were good for NIS 5,000, while those holding tickets ending in 71144, 64490, 47864, 69050, 19122, 23506, 78660, 57720, 25719, 32965, 57506, 50655, 51395, 97803, 85965, 65860, 40436, 21090, and 31648 all won NIS 1,000.

Those holding tickets ending in 939, 591, 859, and 205 all won NIS 100, in 19, 47, 76, and 84 NIS 30; in 79 and 02 NIS 20, and in 0 and 5, NIS 10.

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HEBRON - AT A GLANCE

Palestinian Population: approximately 120,000

Jewish Population: 500, including 45 families and 150 yeshiva students.

Jewish Population of adjacent Kiryat Arba - 6,000

The Jewish population of Hebron is concentrated in a number of buildings and housing complexes. Nineteen families live in buildings adjacent to the Avraham Avinu courtyard, which also includes two kindergartens, the municipal committee offices; and a guest house. Seven families live in mobile homes at Tel Rumeida; 12 families live in Beit Hadassah, six families in Beit Schneersohn, one family in Beit Kastel, and six families in Beit Chason. Beit Romano, home to the Shavei Hebron yeshiva, is currently being refurbished.

Background

Hebron, site of the Machpela Cave, where the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and the Matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca, and Leah are buried, is considered the second holiest city in the Jewish

Jews lived in Hebron almost continuously throughout the Byzantine; Arab, Mameluke, and Ottoman periods. However, the Jewish community was destroyed during a massacre in 1929, in which Arabs killed 67 Jews and forced hundreds of others to flee from the town.

The city was captured by the IDF during the Six Day War. In April, 1968, a group of Jewish activists registered at the Park Hotel and announced that they had come to re-establish a Jewish presence in the city. The first apartment buildings in Kiryat Arba were completed in 1972 and the first Jewish presence in Hebron itself was established in April, 1979.

Hebron is located 32 km, south of Jerusalem and is situated between 870 meters and 1,020 meters above sea level. The city is built on several hills and wadis. The hills, overlooking the Hebron Jewish community, are situated in the territory due to be handed over to the Patestinians and constitute one of the prime causes of concern for the safety of the Jewish residents.

Source: Government Press Office

Arbel, Shoham: Massive use of detentions to ease Hebron redeployment not an option

IT is not true that the army is planning a widespread use of administrative detentions to prevent problems during the redeployment in Hebron, State Attorney Edna Arbel and Judge Advocate-General Uri Shoham told the Knesset Law Committee yester-

Such wholesale use would not stand up to either the internal supervision of their respective offices or the supervision of the courts, the two said, because each order is carefully scrutinized to ensure that the intelligence information justifying the detention is reliable, that an indictment - even on a lesser charge – is not possible and that no lesser infringement of the detainee's freedom will prevent the feared danger.

"In many cases we have not approved [a military commander's request for detention]," Shoham

Shoham said administrative detention orders generally were used when there is reliable intelligence information against someone, but the army does not want to indict the suspect in open court for fear of comprising valuable mielligence sources. Faced with a choice between compromising these sources and letting a suspected terrorist go free to commit his crimes, the army would choose to let the terrorist walk, he said. But administrative detention which requires neither charge nor kept from the suspect and his lawyer - provides a way to put such people behind bars without compromising sources. Therefore, in the army's pinion, it saves lives, he said.

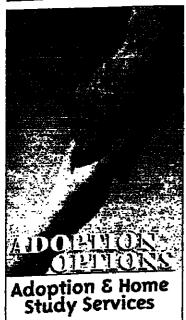
undoubtedly violates uman rights, he added, but the very real threat of terrorism makes it necessary.

However, some MKs hotly rejected this approach.

MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) pointed out that there are currently 274 administrative detainees - one Jewish and 273 Arab. Since 1987, there have been some 14,000 administrative detention orders.

"The price Israeli democracy pays for this is too heavy," he said, adding that it is hard to believe all these detentions were justified when no one is allowed to see the alleged evidence.

MK Abdul Malik Dahamshe (Democratic Arab Party), a lawyer, told the committee that he represented one detainee who was put in detention because of his alleged connection with a wanted terrorist. After the judge hearing the case accidentally revealed this fact, the man was able to prove that it was a case of mistaken identity - two people with the same name. There are doubtless many similar cases, Dahamshe said, but when detainees are not even told why they are being held, it is impossible to disprove the allegations against them.



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"Administrative detention is a stain on Israeli society," MK Yossi Beilin (Labor) agreed. "I'm not willing for administrative detentions to exist m my society ... just as I am not willing for the death penalty to be an option."

However, there were also many MKs who supported Shoham's

approach.
"I suggest that while you're speaking about democracy, you also remember Bus No. 5 in Dizengoff [on which 22 people were killed by a suicide bomber in 1994]," MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) said. "Under the current situation, administrative detentions are a necessity."

MKs Moshe Shahal and Haim Ramon (Labor) also agreed that detentions are sometimes neces-sary, and said this is especially true prior to the Hebron withdraw-

"With respect to the [Jewish] residents of Hebron, we know who they are. We hear them on the radio. We know what they have done in the past,.... Can someone honestly tell me they don't consti-tute a danger?" Shahal said.

"I recommend putting everyone who says he intends to blow up the Hebron agreement into adminis-

EVELYN GORDON trative detention." Ramon added. However, Zucker and committee

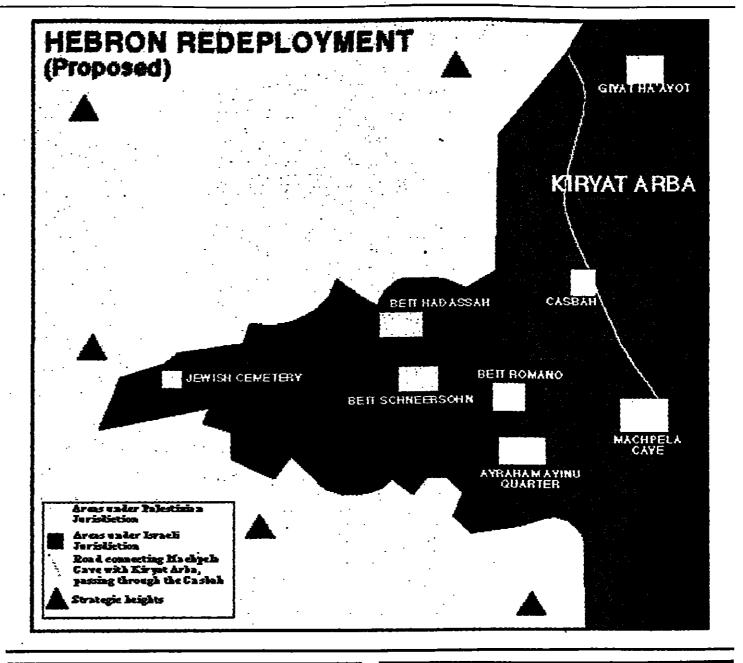
chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) retorted that anyone openly making threats on TV and radio can be legally prosecuted, so administrative detentions are not needed in this case.

"We can't say that because of [former Kach spokesman and resident] Noam Hebron Federman, we are willing to contique administrative detentions," Beilin said.

Zucker and Beilin said they plan to introduce a bill to outlaw administrative detentions. Yahalom, however, suggested that they concentrate instead on trying to restrict the use of this tool. If they were unable to outlaw detentions while occupying powerful positions in the previous govern-ment, they will not be able to do so now, he said.

The two replied that they would assist Yahalom's effort as well if it were directed at all detentions, but refused to countenance the bill he proposed on Wednesday, which ould help Jewish detainees only.

"Human rights can't be parti-tioned Zocker said."
"Franciscon, however, said a dis-unction between entirens and non-



The In Jerusalem supplement appearing with the Friday edition of The Jerusalem Post

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National Referendum!

Binyamin Netanyahu: You have no mandate to redeploy in Hebron!

Binyamin Netanyahu, you were elected because of your explicit commitment to the voters:

"I see no reason to leave Hebron"

"We must not leave Hebron" "If the decision is ours, it won't happen" (Netanyahu, Arutz 7, May 7, 1996)

"The IDF must have sole responsibility for security in Hebron. We will not agree to divided responsibility, which would quickly bring disaster..." (Netanyahu, Knesset speech, September 7, 1995)

Binyamin Netanyahu, you proclaimed that "commitments must be honored,"

BUT YOU ARE NOT HONORING YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE VOTERS AND YOUR PEOPLE:

YOU are redeploying in Hebron

YOU are transferring Jewish property in Hebron to Arafat!

YOU are ready to give Arafat a written commitment to continue implementing the Oslo Agreement,

which means, YOU are handing over Judea and Samaria. If you cannnot honor your commitment to the Jewish People, then you must ask them through a

National Referendum!

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No ethnic cleansing

THE agreement has not yet been signed. violence if he does not get his way. but Israel's redeployment in Hebron has all but taken place, both on the ground and in the public's mind. On the ground, three Israeli outposts are left on the Palestinian side of the city, all of which are ready to be evacuated on a few hours' notice. In the minds of both proponents and opponents, the withdrawal is now inevitable. There is also a sickening feeling in the air that a bloody confrontation in Hebron is more than a remote possibility,

In no place will the interim stage of the peace process be more severely tested than Hebron. It is the last of seven cities in Judea and Samaria from which Israel will withdraw under the Oslo Accords, and the only one in which there is a Jewish community. In Hebron, the most extreme elements on both sides live side by side, cheek to jowl.

The raging debate as to whether the agreement negotiated by the Netanyahu government is better or worse than that negotiated by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres misses the point. First, the Hebron portion of the Oslo Accords was somewhat vague: it was the only portion termed as "guidelines." Fleshing out the important details was a matter of implementing, not changing, the existing agreement. Second, to the extent small changes were made, they no doubt were trades that rendered the agreement both better and worse from Israel's perspective. Third, both sides agree that, despite the exhausting process that was involved in negotiating the Hebron withdrawal, the broad outlines remain

The main change that has occurred is not in the agreement itself, but in the environment in which it will be implemented. Just a few weeks ago, riots broke out in response to the lie that Israel was undermining Al-Aksa Mosque by opening a new exit to an ancient tunnel. Palestinian mobs attacked Israeli military posts while Palestinian police stood by and watched. Within hours, bullets were flying between Israeli soldiers and Palestinian police.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat paid no political price for deliberately fanning the flames during the crisis and taking his time to put them out. On the contrary, he is riding high on a wave of political support, both among Palestinians and internationally. Since the violence, Arafat has alternated between pledges to end violence and thinly veiled calls for further

It is hard to imagine any security arrangements that can prevent violence if Arafat believes that a confrontation is in his interest. Unless Palestinian police have orders to prevent it. all it could take to set off a full-fledged shooting battle would be a few stone-throwers provoking settlers into shooting in self-defense. In a tinderbox such as Hebron, the only hope for preventing violence is if Arafat believes it is not in his interest, and therefore works actively to

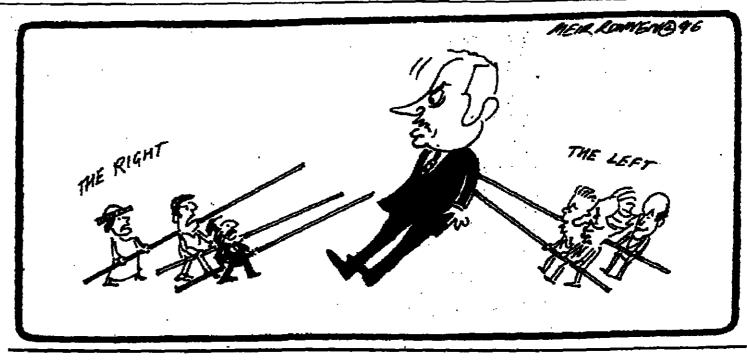
While it is difficult for Israel to reverse Palestinian gains in response to past violence, Israel can affect Arafat's incentives with regard to the future if he is made to realize that bloodshed will block further gains. This, however, requires a vision of the future in which most Israelis, let alone Palestinians and Israelis, can find a kernel of agreement.

Recent statements by the prime minister in which he floated state-like models for the eventual Palestinian entity indicate that the government is groping to come up with such a vision. The challenge is to give Palestinians enough of a stake in the process, while laying out red lines that convince Israelis (and Palestinians) that there is an end to the slippery slope of conces-

In addition to providing a credible vision for the peace process, Netanyahu can also deter violence by reiterating his commitment to do whatever it takes to ensure the security of the Jews of Hebron. While the city's Jews will have to learn to become good citizens of an Arab city, it is fair to demand from the majority in Hebron some toleration for a small minority in its midst.

The message to Arafat must be: violence will not oust the Hebron Jewish community, it will only redouble Israel's commitment to the community's security. For this message to be credible, it also has to be understood and supported by the United States.

The temptation of moderate-thinking people and governments is to accept as natural the Palestinian desire to rid themselves of a small Jewish enclave in the city where Abraham purchased his burial site over 3,000 years ago. But the virulent hatred among some Palestinians should not be accepted, anymore than similar poisonous attitudes by Jews. Ethnic cleansing is wrong, it must not be tolerated in Hebron.



What Hebron can teach

THE evacuation - not "redeployment" - of the IDF from Arab Hebron is a fait accompli.

The minute details of the agreement that is on the verge of being hammered out have not yet been made public or even revealed to the government, much less to the Knesset. But there is every reason to accept claims that the differences between those details and the terms worked out between Yasser Arafat and the previous government's negotiators are microscopic at best.

Have the past five months, then, been a tragic waste of time? Couldn't the painful concessions Binyamin Netanyahu is making now have been made in June or July, avoiding the tragic events and casualties of September and the palpable decline of Israel's international status?

Not if there is any meaning to democratic elections. More than any elections up till then, last May's revolved around the single issue of the Rabin-Peres government's policies and performance in talks with the Palestinians and preliminary feintings vis-a-vis

A conclusive majority of the electorate clearly rejected those policies and the government that espoused them, although a majority just as clearly did not reject the continuation of the Oslo process.

Netanyahu was duty-bound to try to change the atmosphere of negotiations with the Palestinians and the basic assumptions that guided his Labor predecessors. Given his begrudging though unavoidable commitment to the

ZAHI Haneobi's elevation

to the post of justice minis-

ter is a disappointment.

year ago he advocated the dis-

patch of Apache helicopter gun-

ships to spray the Arab mobs who

reveled at the carnage wrought by

If Hanegbi "just growed" then most of this growth occurred

overnight, as an acid critic of Oslo

instantaneously became a stannch defender of the pact.

An explanation is in order. Did a

plaintive Arafat appear to Hanegbi

in a dream, or did a piercing flash

of light suddenly illuminate a

Barring this and similarly plan-

sible explanations we are left with

the conclusion that either our jus-

tice minister's recent stance - or

his current one - was motivated

This is hardly the quality one

Hanegbi's admission that he

cannot fill the shoes of Professor

David Liba'i, who held the portfo-

lio under Yitzhak Rabin and

Shimon Peres, displays touching

humility. It is a pity that such

humility was not in evidence

when Hanegbi decided to accept

the post, since he will be operating

First he lacks the legal stature to

by a healthy dose of cynicism.

seeks in a justice minister.

hitherto murky horizon?

political moderate.

Arab suicide bombers.

YOSEF GOELL

Oslo agreements, the eventual evacuation from Arab Hebron was a foregone conclusion.

The five months that have elapsed, however, should be seen as an unavoidable payment of rebbe gelt, of apprenticeship fees, by a neophyte premier and government in preparation for the far more dannting talks on the remainder of Oslo 2 and the beginning of final-stage negotiasubstantive violation of major aspects of its commitments in previous agreements.

Netanyahu thus wasn't being cute but absolutely correct in responding to Arafat's demand for compliance with his own list of demands for PA compliance in redressing its own violations.

These include the opening of fire by PA policemen on Israeli forces in September, failure to

Israel should dig its heels in on substantive issues, not symbolic ones

Hopefully Netanyahu and his colleagues have begun to learn, from Hebron, the essential lesson of how best to conduct the ensuing stages of the process.

The most immediate issue of contention following the evacuation of Hebron will be the continued implementation of the Phase 2 agreements for further Israeli withdrawal from Area B (the vilages). The main explanation of Arafat's foot-dragging on Hebron over the past few weeks, in fact, has been his demand that Netanyahu commit himself in writing to a new timetable of further withdrawals.

THERE IS no doubt of Israel's narrow technical violation of agreements on the timing of further withdrawals. But there is even : less doubt : that the Palestinian Authority has been in

honor the commitment explicitly to expunge the clauses of the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's annihilation; failure to seize the arms caches of Hamas and Islamic Jihad and to extirpate their military infrastructures, and failure to surrender terrorists who have fled to PA safe havens.

One of the clear mandates Netanyahu does have from the electorate is to demand reciprocity from the Palestinians as negotiations continue. So Arafat's refusal to redress the PA's varied and serious violations of Oslo 2 would provide ample justification for an Israeli suspension of further withdrawai.

The most reasonable way to prevent such an impasse from turning into a total breakdown of the process would be to skip over the remainder of Oslo 2 and go straight onto the final-stage-talks... Here Hebron furnishes an essential guideline.

Israel should demonstrate its readiness to trade concessions on symbolic issues - like a continued residual Israeli presence in Hebron and some form of Palestinian "statehood" and presence in Jerusalem - for concessions on substantive, securitylinked issues like limitations on Palestinian armed forces and the annexation to Israel of part of the territories containing the bulk of the Israeli settlers.

One immediate example of such issues is the PA's demand for full Palestinian control of the air strip at Dehaniya in the Gaza Strip, which the Palestinians want to turn into an international airport.

Right now such a demand must be rejected out of hand because exclusive PA control of any port of entry from the outside world would mean a certain gateway for the smuggling in of arms and terrorists from the Palestinian dias-

An honest approach to finalstage talks, one that hopes to see them end with a mutually acceptable compromise, can only be predicated on the understanding that we will also be called upon to make painful concessions.

As we approach the moment of truth it is essential that we learn this lesson from the case of Hebron: The side that insists on fighting an all-out battle over symbolic, as opposed to substantive, interests will end up the

The writer comments on public

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR |

TIME TO RETIRE

Sir, - The Oren Shahor affair brings, once again, starkly to the fore the unfortunate shortcomings of an otherwise highly respected statesman who, in the past, has done great things for his country.

The Shimon Peres we know today is not the Shimon Peres of 25 years ago. Then he was aware of his limitations, was fully cognizant of his strengths and his failings. Today he has, regrettably, lost his sense of proportion. He believes that he, and only he, has the key to the "peace process." Your issue of October 3 carried a report by Eldad Beck from Paris headlined, "Peres: When time is right I will move to save peace process." In that report, Beck quotes Peres as also saying: he gives the Palestinian leader "small details and those keys that will enable Arafat to negotiate

directly with Netanyahu."

It is in this light that his clandestine meetings with the major-general heading delicate negotiations with the Palestinian leadership must be judged. Undoubtedly, it is customary for the opposition in every democratic country to seek ways and means of toppling the government in power. But it is certainly not customary, nor even justifiable, for the leader of the opposition to endeavor to overthrow the democratically elected government by aiding the "enemy" (and Arafat still considers himself at war with Israel, for he makes no secret of his real intention which brings the threat of jihad so easily to his lips). Poor Shimon Peres! He really believes he is the master craftsman of the "peace process" and that aobody but he has the right to negotiate with Arafat along lines other than those approved by aim and his partner. The time has come

Tel Aviv.

SUPPORT

for Peres to retire gracefully on the

laurels he has rightfully earned.

Sir. - I would like to voice my strong support for your newspaper, which I very much enjoy reading. It makes a refreshing change to the biased and often unfairly critical newspapers of Europe and England, where I

PAUL BARNETT

STANLEY BROZA

Ness Amim.

BNEI AKIVA SINGS FOR PEACE

Sir, - Professor David Newman of Ben-Gurion University wrote a learned article on October 30 with sharp criticism of the refusal of Bnei Akiva to sing the "Song to Peace." From this, he concludes that Bnei Akiva is in principle against peace and that it prefers an ideology of territory. The only problem is that the professor distorts and invents facts in order to attack them.

Let me make it clear that Bnei Akiva has a strong desire for peace, just as all our nation does. We agreed to express this basic desire in a song which we sang together with the other youth movements, "A Desire for Peace" (Derishat Shalom). It is true that we objected to the "Song to Peace" because it has words which are against all our principles. The main example is: "Don't look to the past, do not think of those who have fallen." We see in this line of the song a desecration of the memory of the fallen soldiers of the security services and even more

so of the memory of Yizhak Rabin. Professor Newman calls for Bnei Akiva to change its emphasis because it has become narrowminded. It would be better if he would change his emphasis and stick to the facts.

It seems to me that our differences of opinion are basic, and are expressed by a phrase which is repeated so often today. "A year has

already passed, and nothing has changed!" I agree that we have not learned enough in the past year. If there are still those who define

its feelings and opinions. That is how we responded when we were invited to participate in the Rabin, OBML We immediately the political left to sing the song

controversy reach a compromise by giving up their principles is danger-

Sir. - Several weeks have passed since a woman drove to a nearby park in Ramat Aviv, opened her car door, and dumped out two lovely, helpless husky puppies. From that time, these puppies have roamed around the area, acting like playful puppies, devoted to one another, inseparable, and lucky to still be

The entire neighborhood knows about their existence. Some good souls put food out for them. Other people lament how sad it is that these beautiful puppies are abandoned, homeless creatures. Some kids throw rocks at them and when questioned why, they don't seem to have an answer.

Shelter from the coming winter months will be a problem as recently when there was a downpour, they were running around with wer fur. Shelter from the dangers of the automobile is also crucial.

Some of us have tried to intervene. We have phoned veterinari-

national soul-searching as a process which leads exclusively to their own views, there is still much work to be done. Two simultaneous monologues do not constitute a dialogue. A real dialogue between diferent sectors of the nation requires each side to listen and to be ready to accept the other side together with-

ceremony in memory of Yitzhak agreed as a matter of course, even though we knew that others would sing the line, "do not think of those who have fallen." True unity permits each side to contribute, and to be tolerant of opposing views. (I hesitate to think what would have happened if, in the name of unity, we had asked youth movements on "Hebron is Ours.")

To demand that both sides of a

YONA GOODMAN, Head of Bnei Akiva in Israel

ABANDONED PUPPIES

ans, animal organizations, and the municipality. We hear the same explanations. There are too many unwanted animals in Israel; the situation in the shelters is appalling, overcrowded and beset by illness of epidemic proportions. In a most discreet way, we hear a frustrating yet realistic suggestion that the animals have a better "chance" if they are not caught and placed in one of

these shelters. Animals are living creatures that, because of our negligence, have found themselves in this world. As little puppies (or kittens), they are cooed over for a short time. As soon as no one in the family takes the responsibility for their care, they are discarded. Adult does and cats must be spayed or castrated; ones who have a home or ones abandoned. Whoever opposes this is responsible for the present situation.

FRANCES FREY

AMIEL UNGAR

Disappointing, disorderly retreat

Let's begin precisely with the challenge the ministry mandarins, which will limit his role to riding point which commends Hanegbi political shotgun for the profesto some editorial writers - namely his miraculous transformation sionals at the department. Secondly, our new justice minister assumes his duties while in the from ideological firebrand to Attributing Hanegbi's metamormidst of a political face-lift, which phosis to political maturity is all further aggravates his probationtoo facile an explanation. Only a

ary status. Should Hanegbi abandon mouthing platitudes about the rule of law and decide to challenge the

ous services are explicitly and graphically hawked in our mass circulation dailies. The purveyors of these services are known and even accept credit cards, but the rule of law is not applied to them. Only when the massage parlors disturb apartment owners in

swank housing developments does the rule of law bestir itself to move the problem elsewhere. The law also regulates the con-

Tzahi Hanegbi as justice minister will prove detrimental to the rule of law

legal establishment from Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair downwards he will expose himself to savage attacks. Critics will scoff at his skimpy judicial credentials, rake up his earlier escapades and recall once again that Tzahi Hanegbi is Geula Cohen's boy. Count on Tzahi to

play it safe. Well, what's wrong with a quiescent minister who stands aside to let the professionals run the

Plenty. The legal establishment, like any other establishment, needs an occasional shakeup. Given its left-secular makeup and predilections the Justice Ministry has its own perspective on what

constitutes the rule of law. Prostitution, to those who have forgotten, is still illegal in the State of Israel. However, the vari-

come through his companies,

ditions under which businesses may operate on Shabbat. When was the last time the guardians of the law invoked these regulations? Some people in the Justice Ministry have obviously decided that certain laws should remain a dead letter while other laws namely, those governing incitement - will be selectively enforced.

BINYAMIN Netanyahu had the right idea when he originally appointed Prof. Ya'acov Ne'eman to head the Justice Ministry. Ne'eman was a legal heavyweight who represented constituencies long alienated by the legal establishment. He also sought to restore Jewish law to its

rightful prominence in the Israeli legal tradition - a combination which irked those who believed

vate fiefdom and a valuable political asset for the left. They were delighted to see

that the rule of law was both a r

Ne'eman leave under a cloud, to be replaced by a pliant successor. This turn of events will, ironically, prove detrimental to the rule of

Israel sorely needs to emulate the American legal tradition, which recognizes the legitimacy of competing legal outlooks, both liberal and conservative. The shifting ascendancy of the contending viewpoints also finds its expression in the membership and legal coloration of the US

Supreme Court. America's pluralistic legal tradition allows various constituencies. from civil libertarians to law and order advocates, to identify with

In Israel, by contrast, the selfproclaimed champions of democracy have sought to impose a legal monism which estranges important segments of our society.

Netanyahu should have selected someone with similar credentials and commitment to legal pluralism. By appointing Hanegbi, Netanyahu signals a disorderly

under a dual handicap.

A fellow in Netanya wrote letters to several American universities in May claiming to be a major donor to each and demanding that the universities send him six T-shirts and sweatshirts for his grandchil-

In the letter received by the U of T, he claims to have written several times previously to no avail and now is hopping mad and wants shirts in sizes mediclaims his wife, whom he does not name, is a graduate of the

which he does not identify. He said he had contributed \$68,000 in the last fiscal year. David Habercom, the university's director of development research, writes that they could find no record of such a handsome gift ("and we have a very reliable accounting process").
Says Habercom: "I wrote back

anonymous and, furthermore, two new granddaughters had been born to him in the meantime! This fellow's family is reproducing almost as fast as

way to boost his inventory (and

maybe avoid some Israeli taxes.) At any rate, the guy has For more information on how

Stronach, one of only 25 professional bagpipe teachers in Scotland, said he would give

ed - the US.

"I don't think it is the volume of noise that is the problem but the amount of time that I practice," Stronach said. "I have to put in three or four hours a day."

We can't imagine his new American neighbors will be too

the system.

Once Ne'eman had to go,

retreat And Hanegbi? Given his liabilities and ambitions he will not exert the corrective influence our legal system requires.

The writer teaches political science at Bar-llan University's. extension in Ariel.

HIS NEIGHBORS call it noise

pollution and local authorities

say it's as bad as a ghetto blaster.

so Scottish bagpiper Gary

Stronach says he is taking his

music where it will be appreciat-

POSTSCRIPTS

WE GOT wind of this peculiar story from the University of Tennessee, where a staffer seems to have uncovered an unusual Israeli money-making

um, large, and extra-large. He university and his gifts have "I know this sounds utterly

... pressing for more informa-tion, specifically the names of his companies and his devoted wife. He wrote back that he wanted his gifts to remain

we can make shirts!

one university called and told us they had sent out the shirts this morning! 'My guess is the guy sells these things, which I know fetch a nice price in the Middle East, and has found a clever

wacky, but I have the documen-

tation in my hand proving his

correspondence with us... and I

have e-mails from universities

and other organizations across

the US saying that they received the same letter. And

to get a free sweatshirt, write to ... no, we're just kidding.

lessons at a university in Virginia after his local council told him he could not practice at home.

thrilled to have him around

Egypt's gutter feeding frenzy

ERE'S an old Cold War

Johnny and Ivan meet at one of those conferences to promote international understanding and start debating the relative merits of American democracy and Soviet Communism.

"My system guarantees me freedom of speech," boasts Johnny. "If I want to, I can stand outside the White House itself and shout: 'Lyndon Johnson is an idiot; Lyndon Johnson is a criminal' all day

long."
"So what?" retorts Ivan "I can march around Red Square shouting exactly the same

In a democracy attacks on political leaders are a little like ethnic jokes. They are acceptable and sometimes even amusing, as long as they are self-directed. But outsiders had better be very careful.

I have never pretended to be a big fan of Binyamin Netanyahn, and not just because of his man-

I believe that many of his actions are misguided and damaging to Israel, and when that is the case, I am happy to criticize him as often and as vigorously

But it gets my back up when foreigners do it, especially when they descend into the gutter of indecent personal attack and most of all when they couldn't and wouldn't dare level the same kind of charges against their own leaders.

Last month the Cairo daily al-Akhbar launched a vicious adhominem attack against Netanyahu, comparing him with Hitler and warning that he would come to the same bad

With this the paper joined the and the Cairo papers carry anti-Bibi feeding frenzy that has been a central feature of other Egyptian - and Arab media almost since the day he never see the light of day in Damascus or Baghdad.

ONTRARY to convention-

al wisdom, ideas and faith are what make the world

go around. Money just greases

Idealism is the strength of the

world's religions, the impetus for

historical movements like the

emergence of Communism and

democracy, and the moral foun-

Ideas move men. Neither facts

the limits of his own finiteness.

assassination. Cynically manipulated into a partisan show of sup-

port for Labor party policies that were repudiated at the polls, the

event still succeeded in drawing

tens of thousands of Israelis,

moving them with songs of

People cannot be inspired by

"security" in the same way as

they are by "peace." There are

odes to peace in almost every

language. Has anyone ever heard

Security considerations are a

brake that reality applies to a

They cannot move people to endure the hardships of standing

up to a world hostile to Israeli

sovereignty in Jerusalem or to an

armed PLO ready to open fire on

soldiers and civilians whenever

its demands are rejected by

If Israel continues to be threat-

ened - as it was last week by

American Undersecretary of

Commerce Stuart Eisenstadt -

with economic retribution if it

does not alter its policies, can

security needs as understood by

the Netanyahu government and

a song about security?

dream's momentum.

Israeli negotiators.

Peace is such an ideal.

dation of nations.

MARK A. HELLER

pected of picking on Netanyahu it should be noted that previous Israeli leaders were sometimes subjected to similar personal attacks; and the treatment of Israel in general has often been infused with crude antisemitic

In response to Israeli protests President Hosni Mubarak and other Egyptian spokesmen insist that they themselves oppose personal attacks of this

When the premier is wrong I'm happy to castigate him but when foreigners

do it, that really gets my back up

sort, but that the Egyptian press is free and independent and that individuals can say whatever

ONE striking aspect of the whole phenomenon is its irony. There was a time, not so long ago, when comparisons to Hitler might have been intended as complimentary rather than invidious. After all, many Arabs including Mubarak's own predecessor Anwar Sadat and the godfather of Palestinian Arab nationalism, Haj Amin Husseini were once admirers of the

Of course that was before it became politically incorrect. But what is even more breath-

taking is the hypocrisy.

It is true that the Egyptian media are a lot freer than their Syrian or Iraqi counterparts, and the Cairo papers carry actions, especially in the domestic arena, that would

The power of Zionism

anything goes, even in a respectful tone.

As for real personal insults... well, suppose some misguided Egyptian wanted to pronounce Mubarak a cowardly, indecisive bumbler who doesn't even have a vice president because the job requires someone just a little bit dumber than the president and no one in Egypt meets that description. Would he be able to find a forum for his views anywhere in the "free and indepen-

dent" Egyptian press?
For all his faults Netanyahu isn't responsible for every single problem in this part of the world, and it would be refresh-ing, just for a change, if all those Egyptians and other Arab so concerned about the fare of the peace process were occa-sionally to focus their acute critical insight on their own

Refreshing; but not very likely. The reality is that they have to be prudent and obey the warning professional illusionists give audiences before per-forming what looks like a dan-gerous magic trick: "Don't ry this at home."

And as long as it isn't safe at home, those scurrilous, long-distance personal attacks on Israeli leaders only make their perpetrators look like graduates of the Stuermer/Pravda school of journalism.

The editors, writers, and car-toonists who indulge in this sort of analysis probably can't change the system, and may not even want to. But that doesn't rule out elementary civility.

Better yet - at least until their system changes and self-criticism becomes safe - I have a modest proposal for them: Leave Bibi to me.

The writer is senior research. associate at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv



Six million, or seven?

JONATHAN BLASS deflect American pressures and say no?

According to Israel Radio the US told Israel last month that it would not oppose European condemnation of Israel if "progress" were not made with the Palestinians on Hebron. Implied was a threat of American acquies-

nor pragmatic considerations have the same power. Man seeks Only it can inspire a link to eternity through what he Jews to endure the perceives as truths that transcend consequences of The inspirational force generatasserting their ed by the idea of peace was rights to Hebron demonstrated once again at the mass rally in memory of Yitzhak and Jerusalem Rabin on the anniversary of his

> cence in European recognition of a Palestinian state.

Will the government be able to stick to its principles on settle-ments, on "further redeployment" or even on Jerusalem when threatened with a Palestinian state backed by world powers? And a more immediate prob-

lem: Arab terrorist organizations in Hebron are stockpiling hundreds of automatic weapons. Security sources have termed "inevitable" an outbreak of violence upon Israeli withdrawal from the city. A malicious campaign in the media is preparing public opinion to blame any assault on the Jews of Hebron on the Jews themselves.

Prime Minister Netanyahu has promised settlement leaders that if necessary he will deploy tanks and helicopters in their defense. But attacked by the left and by world opinion, will he be able to justify to the Israeli public the cost in both men and materials? Only by an unabashed, idealistic appeal to Zionism.

ZIONISM, like peace, has within it the power of an idea. It can

has already proved itself, changing the life of the Jewish people over the last 100 years beyond recognition, motivating millions of Jews throughout the world to leave their homes and seek their future in a Jewish homeland.

More powerful than any argument based on pragmatism alone or on legitimate insistence on "reciprocity" and "security," Zionism can inspire Jews to endure the consequences of Israel's assertion of

its rights to Hebron and Jerusalem. But can Zionism be reinvigorated as a force that openly influences Israelis' lives and thinking? Much depends on the stress Netanyahu and his cabinet place on Zionist ideals when addressing the public. One cannot expect government ministers to become philosophers of Zionism.

But prime ministers Peres and Rabin weren't philosophers either. They promoted their vision of peace by emphasizing it repeatedly and unreservedly.

Similarly Prime Minister Netanyahu, by consistently and publicly articulating his own ideological commitment to the Land of Israel, can create, more effectively than any lecturer, settler or rabbi, a climate in favor of standing firm in defense of the Land, and a depth of support that will enable him to remain loyal to his beliefs in the face of outside pres-

The Jewish people has given the world its most challenging and moral ideals. It is a people that has always been motivated by ideas. The prime minister's considerable powers of persuasion should be directed toward inspiring the nation to an idealistic love of the land that does not fear self-sacrifice. Educating through leadership and example to a renewed Zionist commitment is an important part of his job.

The writer, rabbi of Neveh Tzsf in Samaria, heads Ratzon Yehuda, a rabbinical training program for graduates of Yeshivot Hesder.

article A Washington Post of November 10 argues that new materials from World War II indicate that the number of Holocaust victims was not six million, but seven.

The claim is based on two sources: (1) documents in the National Archives from the summer of 1941, recently uncovered, that tell us about the murderous-activities of German police units in the then newlyoccupied territories of the USSR - these wireless German reports were deciphered by British code-breakers; and (2) a new batch of 15,000 pages of documents sold by the KGB archives in Russia to the Holocaust Museum Washington.

The article provides some examples of the police records and the summary of a senior SS officer, who says that in his area 30,000 Jews were murdered in the course of a few months.

No example from the new Russian materials is cited. The article also claims that as a result of these findings we now know that not only SS troops killed Jews, but ordinary German police as well.

Unfortunately - or fortunately - there is absolutely nothing new in all this.

The deciphered police reports have been known to us since they were described by Prof. F.H. Hinsley of Cambridge, England, in his book British Intelligence in the Second World War in 1981. The fact that they were "discovered" in American archives means, of course, that the British informed the Americans about the reports and did not try to keep them secret from their

Copies of most of these of full cooperation.

YEHÜDA BAUER

the USSR.

They show that, contrary to the claim in the Washington Post, the British decoders would have had very great difficulty deducing from them that the Germans were engaged in a sytematic slaughter of Jews both because the figures quoted by the Germans do not indicate

used by practically all scholars papers from Moscow, and while bers as hundreds of thousands dealing with the Holocaust in the Washington museum's exemplifies the horror of what als as compared to Jerusalem, its store is growing fast.

However, neither here nor there do we yet have any real knowledge of what these sources contain - acquiring that will take years - beyond a general understanding that they will the total annihilation that was tell us what happened in many actually taking place but refer places in the occupied USSR.

A US daily's flight of imagination could provide grist for the mills of Holocaust deniers

to small numbers of victims in one place or another; and because only a relatively small number of these reports were decoded, and only for a number of weeks here and there, not over a whole period.

The British thought they were seeing reports of horrible pogroms, and that is what they reported to their superiors. They saw no proof of anything

It is therefore misleading to argue, as the Post did, that these materials prove the West knew about the Holocaust as early as summer 1941. The information in fact reached the West between June and November 1942.

THE 15,000 pages of documents are part of a much larger treasure of important sources, most of which are already at Yad Vashem. The Israeli institution and the Washington Holocaust Museum exchange all archival material, in a spirit

To say that these sources provide proof of anything at all, never mind general Holocaust statistics, requires a real flight of imagination.

Neither of these sources actually "proves" anything - cer-tainly not that the number of Jews murdered is larger by a million than was thought.

The figure of, probably, around 5.8 million victims was arrived at three times, by inde-pendent methods - by the late Jacob Robinson, one of the first serious researchers to deal with the Holocaust, in 1958; by a team of German historians in Berlin in 1986, and by a Yad Vashem team headed by Yisrael Gutman and myself for the Encyclopedia of the Holocaust

These figures may be wrong by one or two hundred thousand human lives either way, but a sensationalist American report based on nothing more than thin air does not change that. One has to apologize to the

memory of the victims for such

FINE JUDAICA, HEBREW

Every single life was, as our tradition tells us, a whole reports are stored in Yad Yad Vashem has received world. To say that we could Vashem and they have been some tens of thousands of these have erred by such huge numworld. To say that we could archives may have only occurred, which was expressed between 5-10 percent of matering in the fate of each individual and is hidden when we talk

about statistics. Yet talk we must, because the Holocaust is too important to permit us to ignore falsifications, even if they are perpetrated with the best of intentions,

as in this case. We have known for a long time that the crimes were not committed only by the SS. Books published in the US and in Germany and research done in this country show that Police Battalions, units of the gendarmerie, as well as many German army units - as recent research by German historians has shown - were directly involved.

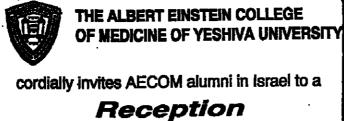
There is nothing new in what the Washington Post told us. On the contrary, the reports quoted were written by SS Generals Bach-Zelewski and Jackeln, not by the police commanders. who in any case were part of the SS machinery.

The Post's article may well encourage the Holocaust deniers. It is easy to show that there could not have been seven million Jewish victims, and the false figures may well be used to cast doubt on the real figures and the real tragedy.

When a serious paper like the Washington Post descends to cheap sensationalism, we are in real trouble.

The writer is director of Yad Vashem's International Center for Holocaust Studies.





Hosted by Dr. Stephen Lazar, Assistant Dean Wednesday, November 20, 1996, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

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Clinton approves American troops for Zaire

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - President Bill Clinton has tentatively agreed to order US troops to help in an international rescue of some one million refugees in eastern Zaire, and the Pentagon said the troops could go next

White House Press Secretary Mike McCurry said yesterday that the US commitment. expected to last about four months, involves sending 1,000 ground troops to the African nation. An additional 2,000 to 3,000 American troops would go to nearby countries to help with support activities, the Pentagon said.

"The president has decided that the United States is willing, in principle, to participate in a limited fashion in this mission as long as certain conditions are stipulated to," McCurry said at a White House briefing.

Among the conditions he listed were that the mission would be of limited duration and made up of a multinational force.

But a rebel leader in eastern Zaire said yesterday he opposed intervention in the region by a multinational force that did not have the power to separate Rwandan Hutu extremist militiamen from refugees.

"I am opposed to any force that is not neutral. and a force that comes here without a mandate to separate the Interahamwe and the refugees is unfeasible, impractical and useless," rebel chief Laurent Kabila told a news conference in

Kabila was referring to extremist Hutu Interahamwe militiamen who helped lead the genocide of up to one million people in Rwanda in 1994 and intimidate refugees in stem Zaire against returning home.

"I don't see it is clear who is giving this mandate. We have not even been consulted by the United Nations about this," he said. The ethnic Tutsi rebels holding a strip of

eastern Zaire are also opposed to French lead the multilateral force to bring in aid to desinvolvement in the international force, arguing perate Rwandan and Burundian Hutus, some France backs Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko and supported the Hutu-led government in Rwanda before the genocide.

And a UN envoy negotiating a mandate for the force with Rwanda and Zaire, whose army is battling Rwandan-backed Tutsi rebels, said it is unclear how the force could handle armed Hutus using refugees as a screen.

Most are former soldiers of the Rwanda Armed Forces (FAR) who fled with Hutu civilians after losing a civil war following the 1994 massacre of Tutsis in Rwanda.

The world community is eager to avoid a rerun of 1994 when it effectively fed and gave sanctuary to many of those responsible for the slaughter of an estimated 800,000 people, mainly Tutsis.

The Hutus fear revenge for the genocide and are apparently putting up a last stand at the teeming Mugunga refugee camp near Goma. "We don't know what is the strength of the ex-FAR and the Interahamwe," said UN envoy

Raymond Chretien. "We don't know whether they will accept to be separated from their He said, however, that both Zaire and

Rwanda are now agreed on the main objectives

of the proposed international humanitarian intervention in the region. They are agreed ... to help the Rwandan, Burundian or Zairean refugees on the ground on Zairean territory. They are agreed that this force should create the conditions for an eventual voluntary repatriation of the refugees to their countries of origin," he said. "They are both agreed that if this force does not achieve

the return of the refugees then it will have Canadian Army Lt.-Gen. Maurice Baril will perate Rwandan and Burundian Hunus, some cut off from help since local Tutsis rebelled a month ago. British and French troops will also

The White House announcement cleared the way for the UN Security Council to work on a resolution, already drafted by Canada, in hopes it can be adopted by the end of the week.

McCurry also said the mission would have to be "very clearly defined" and it would not try to disarm militants or conduct any kind of "forced entry."

Defense Secretary William Perry told reporters the US planned to send about 1,000 troops to Goma to secure and run the airport, the key center for distributing relief.

They will also set up a protected corridor about 3 km. long from Goma to nearby Rwanda to allow refugees to return to Rwanda if they voluntarily choose to do so, the Pentagon said.

US officials said although the multinational force would be under the overall command of Canadian general, the US forces would directly serve under an American general who will serve as deputy commander.

Zaire's prime minister, meanwhile, demanded that international aid groups don't set up programs in his country to help more than I million refugees who are cut off from food and Leon Kengo wa Dondo, speaking to delegates of the World Food Summit, insisted that

humanitarian assistance be delivered in the

refugees' homelands of Rwanda and Burundi an apparent effort to draw them out of Zaire. The statement could complicate efforts to bring supplies to the refugees under the protection of a proposed multi-national military

US expected to provide up to 10,000 soldiers for Bosnia

WASHINGTON (AP) - The US is expected to provide up to one-third of a follow-on NATO force in Bosnia, NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said

He said the overall force would come from about 30 countries and be as large as 30,000. His "best guess," he said is that there will be 6,000-10,000 Americans. The multinational troops will replace the present 60,000-member Implementation Force

"I can't guarantee it, but that's my feeling," Solana said, after meeting with US officials, including Vice President Al Gore.

US officials confirmed Solana's estimate that a US force of up to 10,000 is being considered.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said that nothing is final and that President Bill Clinton, who indicated last week that he is considering such a plan, was scheduled to meet yesterday with his top advisers to discuss the Bosnia follow-on force.

"He said he hasn't made a final decision. That's what the purpose of the meeting is today," McCurry

said in an interview early yesterday. McCurry said Clinton is likely to address the use of US forces for Bosnia and Zaire before he leaves today for a Hawaiian vacation and a trip to Asia.

"I suspect sometime before departing he may want to speak publicly on both of these issues." McCurry

About 500 German troops would be deployed around Sarajevo, and Russian participation is also expected, Solana said. It would be the first use of German troops in Bosnia. In all, Solana said, German participation would not exceed 5,000 troops

NATO peacekeepers, including about 15,000 US troops, are set to pull out by the end of the year. US troops would be part of a larger force that would stay perhaps through the end of next year to help assure that the shaky Dayton peace agreement takes

Ukraine may restart Chernobyl nuclear reactor in 1997

KIEV (AP) - Faced with ongoing energy shortages, Ukraine may restart one of its nuclear reactors at the Chernobyl power plant next year, an official said yester-

Two of the four nuclear reactors at Chernobyl have been shut down, and a third is to be turned off on November 30.

That move will "undoubtedly

aggravate the energy situation" in Ukraine, Mikhail Bogdanov, head of public relations at the Chemobyl plant, told the Interfax

"When demand reaches peak levels, the frequency of the current in the energy networks falls to emergency levels," he said.
Officials believe they need to keep at least two of the four reac-

tors working to meet minimum energy requirements in the former Soviet republic. The No. 4 reactor was the site of

the world's worst nuclear power

plant accident in 1986. In 1992,

the No. 2 reactor caught fire and

That has prompted the government to consider restarting the No. 2 reactor next year, Bogdanov said. He did not give a date.

has been shut down since. The No.

1 reactor will be taken off line at

the end of this month.

The West has long pressed Ukraine to shut down Chemobyl altogether, citing the risks of its aging Soviet reactors.

But Ukraine argues that it can't do so unless it gains access to an alternative energy supply. The Group of Seven industrialized nations have pledged \$3.1

billion to help Ukraine close the

plant by the end of the century.

Chicago's Cardinal Bernardin dead at 68

CHICAGO (AP) - Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the soft-spoken son of Italian immigrants who became one of the Roman Catholic Church's strongest voices for social involvement and an embrace of dissenting Catholics, died early yesterday after a cancer ordeal that became his final sermon. He was 68.

Bernardin, the senior Roman Catholic prelate in the US and leader of Chicago's 2.3 million Catholics, underwent surgery for pancreatic cancer in June 1995, and announced on August 30 that the cancer had spread and was inoperable. He gave up his day-to-day duties on October 31. In more than 14 years as archbishop of Chicago, Bernardin helped steer the American church toward an anti-nuclear stance and staked out positions on AIDS and capital punishment. In November, just days

before his death, he wrote to the US Supreme Court urging against creation of a legal right to die. "We can look at death in two ways, as an enemy or as a friend," Bernardin said when he announced his illness was terminal. "As a person of faith, I see death as a friend." On Tuesday, Bernardin took calls

from President Bill Clinton and from Pope John Paul II. His most searing moment of national attention came in November 1993, when he was accused of having sexually abused a young man, Steven Cook, years earlier while Bernardin was archbishop of Cincinnati. Cook recanted the accusation and reconciled with Bernardin before dying of AIDS last year.

We will meet for the shloshim and unveiling of the headstone for

LIBBY WIND-LANDE 5"1

née Lillian Edith Silber on Sunday, November 17, 1996, at 3:00 p.m.

at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery. A bus will leave from the Morian Hotel on Keren Hayesod St. at 2:30 p.m., stopping at the cemetery's parking lot and continuing on to the grave site. Harriet, Tel. 02-5664706

The unveiling of the headstone for

MURRAY RICK 5"

will be held on Friday, November 22, 1996, at 10:00 a.m. at Har Hamenuhot, section 9. We will meet in the parking lot.

Shoshannah Rick and family

The unveiling of the stone for our beloved MEYER (Mike) H. BARGTEIL 577

will take place on Friday, November 22, at 11 a.m. at the Eretz Hachayim Cemetery. The Family in Jerusalem, U.S.A. and Canada

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

RALPH (Raphael) KAYE 5"

on November 14, 1996 (3 Kisley)

Deeply mourned by his devoted family: Wife: Yvonne

Children: Brenda and Shmuel Clive and Karen Jonny

Brothers and sister: Judah and Golda Kiwelowitz isaac and Myrna Kaye

Naomi and Basil Press Grandchildren: Ronen, Gil, Tal, Daniel and Michal and all their families

Prayers at 35/9 Rambam, Ra'anana

Our dear brother-in-law and uncle

RALPH KAYE passed away on November 14, 1996 (3 Kislev) Deeply mourned by: Cecile and Rhoda Cooper and family Shirley Slotow and family, Pretoria, S.A.



Pop superstar Michael Jackson married Debbie Rowe, a 37-year-old nurse who is carrying his child, while on a concert tour in Sydney, Australia, yesterday. The couple is shown bere arriving at a theater in Pasadena, California, on April 28.

Romanians go to the polls

BUCHAREST (Reuter) Romanian voters choose this weekend between an incumbent president who has stuck to cautious reforms or his centrist rival who wants a free hand to hoist the country out of its economic chasm.

President Ion Iliescu, in power since the 1989 fall of communism, goes into Sunday's run-off presidential election saying he favors faster reforms, but admits he has sought to cushion Romanians against austerity measures.

Emil Constantinescu, four points behind Iliescu in the fust round, says such reluctance has "exhausted" Romanians and widened the gap with ex-Communist states

Poland and Hungary. He wants to start a countdown to fulfill campaign promises - rax cuts and improved benefits combined with financial and budget discipline - after his Democratic Convention (CDR) routed Iliescu's party in parliamentary polls earlier this month.

The most important thing, he said, is to get on with the business of government. "Romania needs government quickly, it does not need endless haggling, confusion, and chaos." he said.

Regardless of the outcome, the new government will be drawn mainly from Constantinescu's CDR and the Social Democrats of

former prime minister Petre Roman, who backs his presidential bid after coming third in the opening round.

The CDR fought its campaign on a "Contract with Romania" which commits the government to meet targets within 200 days. Constantinescu says electing him gives him a mandate to act on reforms and rid Romania of the last vestiges of its past.

lliescu pledges to work with the government while acting to counterbalance a legislature and cabinet run by his opponents. "I will temper excesses and oppose any tendency to make tradeoffs in the country's serious problems," he told voters.

ברוך דיין אמת

With sorrowful hearts we announce the passing of the matriarch of our family

BERTHA SAND 5"

widow of the late Mayer Sand 577 Montreal, Canada

The funeral will take place at the Sanhedria Cemetery, Jerusalem, on Sunday, November 17, 1996 (6 Kislev) at 7 p.m., or two hours after the arrival of El Al flight 008.

Mourned by her children and their families: Sister: Regina Litwin, Montreal Shany 7 and Michael Herschorn Brother: Morris and Dina Dalfen, Montreal Manuel and Esther Ella Sand, Tel Aviv

Julius and Roslyn Sand, Miami Beach, Florida Ruth and Issie Messer 77, Hollywood Hills, Florida Maica and Louis Drazin, Montreal

Sheila and Salim Telio, Montreal Shiva at the home of Manuel Sand, 48 Pinchas Rosen, Tel Aviv, beginning Monday morning. Shaharit: 7:00 a.m. Minha: 4:30 p.m. Tel. 972-3-6470352, Fax. 972-3-6494419

British Pound futures contracts have now reached 360% profit. What's next? Find out in the Marber Report.

in his weekly financial newsletter on August 9, international currency expert Brian Marber strongly recommended investing in the British pound, then trading at approximately 1.5480 against the \$US. Marber continued to promote this investment and the pound has appreciated, as he predicted.

As of November 14, the British pound reached a new high of 1.6650. On an initial investment of \$2000 in one futures contract in August, that could have translated into a total profit of over \$7200 after all commissions!

The Marber Report, covering international currencies, interest rates and precious metals, is represented in Israel exclusively by CommStock Trading Ltd. For details on subscribing and additional information on investing in futures, please call Michael Zwebner at our Jerusalem office, (02) 624-4963 or send us this coupon.

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NEWS IN FOCUS

The Jerusalem Post Friday, November 15, 1996 HEBRON: Scars on both sides of the divide



Shlomo Slonim, one year of age in the photo, is held close in the aftershock of the 1929 Hebron Massacre, A scar from the gash on his forehead remains today.

Death spewed forth in the dark

A survivor of the Goldstein massacre recalls the nightmare to Jon immanuel

AHRI Maswadi does not have memories of the massacre in the Haram al-Ibrahimi so much as brief moments of reprieve from memory. But even that is not strictly true. Frequently his wife wakes him in the middle of the night to ask why he screamed. "I screamed?"

"Yes, she tells him, you shouted, 'Get out of here, get us out of

What he remembers clearly is the claustrophobia, and an explosion five minutes after the beginning of dawn prayers during Ramadan, on February 25, 1994. Some 800 people were in the mosque, 29 died and more than 200 were wounded. In the dark, "the building shook, then we heard shooting, automatic fire. I fell to the floor. Then it stopped. I thought it was over. I got up and it started again. I could not breathe."

Maswadi, a 50-year-old father of eight, could not breathe because a bullet punctured a fire extinguisher near him releasing carbon dioxide, he has subsequently learned. The gas, the cordite, the sound of bullets reverberating around the place of worship, tripping in the dark over inert bodies, slipping in pools of blood and on internal organs, injected Maswadi with a feeling of terror that won't go

Terror and loathing. With no conscious irony be describes how



Fabri Maswadi stands outside the Tomb of the Patriarchs. After surviving the trauma of the Ramadan 1994 massacre, he can no longer bring himself to worship there.

shared Patriarch Abraham to seek protection by the Tomb of the Patriarch Jacob, and then were trapped when they could not exit by Joseph's Gate. Maswadi heard shooting outside and also thought he heard shots coming from two different directions inside the prayer hall, but in retrospect understood that was probably caused by an echo.

Unlike subsequent Palestinian attacks, the shooting was the act of an individual. But because he was in IDF uniform with an IDF weapon, and because soldiers began shooting rioting Palestinians outside, and in the confusion blocked ambulances

people ran from the Tomb of the curfews on the Palestinians while leaving the settlers in place, Moslem anger and predisposition welded into a conviction of IDFsettler solidarity.

The army and the Border Police do little to eradicate this impression. Last Wednesday they performed riot-control training in front of Joseph's Gate, leaping from jeeps, and adopting kneeling positions as they aimed automatic weapons at the exit which Maswadi says the army blocked off to worshipers fleeing Goldstein. "They do this often." Maswadi said.

He cannot bring himself to go into the mosque anymore, and has moved home. "I hate the sight of pets, the same carpets that have been cleaned."

Maswadi, who lived at the time in a house by Abner's Tomb opposite The Tomb of the Patriarchs, had gone to the mosque with his nine-year-old son, Karam. He was lucky. Neither was wounded. He saw death spew forth, but in the dark, he did not even see Dr. Baruch Goldstein firing, reloading and firing again.

Hamadi Muhtaseb, a 28-yearold accountant, saw even less. He was bending forward in prayer when a bullet struck him in the spine. He lost consciousness, and despite extensive physiotherapy walks now, but only with cruiches: His loss of conscionsness at least (Continued on Page 8)

Fears of another 1929'

The Jews of Hebron warn of slaughter. Herb Keinon spoke to a survivor of 1929

It is a word repeated over and over like a steady drum beat by settlers in Hebron and Kiryat Arba when asked about redeployment, or about why they live where

Tarpat. It is not a word, but a Hebrew year. 5689. The Gregorian equivalent is 1929 massacre, when 67 Jews were 1929 - the year of the Arab nots in Mandatory Palestine, the year of the massacre of the Jewish community in Hebron.

It colors everything for the Jews of Hebron, even 67 years later. "If the IDF leaves the hills in

Hebron, what you will have is minds, Slonim has it pounded into tarpat," Noam Amon, the head of his mind, heart and body. His immethe settlement in Hebron, admon- diate family was killed in the masished Likud MK Gideon Ezra when the Knesset member visited the city sacre. In addition, he still carries the forehead scar caused by a blow last month. "The Arabs will once again come down and slaughter the Jews. It will be tarpat."

"This is Jewish property that belonged to Jews slanghtered in tarpat," said Kiryat Arba Local Council head Zvi Katzover following an attempt by lews to make a claim on stores they say is Jewish property near the casbah. During this amempt to reclaim Jewish property, the Hebron settlement - referring to the massacre - issued a statement who survived the massacre, and then the massacre - issued a statement that quoted from Kings 1:21: "Did you kill and also take possession?"

"A massacre could transpire here within an hour," Hebron rabbi Moshe Levinger told members of the National Religious Party's cen-tral comminee recently. "We saw what happened in tarpat." Tarpai.

THE JEWS in Hebron - who live under veritable siege in harsh physi-cal conditions - have submerged their present to lay claim to a distant not simple." past to regain the glories of the city that was King David's capital, to be close to the tombs of the patriarchs and matriarchs buried there.

But it is not only antiquity that motivates them. More often than motivates them. More often than Dan, a banker, was a member of the not, Hebron's Jews say they moved municipality and well known by the there fueled by a desire not to give town's Arabs. Hebron's Arabs a prize for the masraction s rate. For the Jews living in 23, about a week after a right-wing sacre of 1929. For the Jews living in Hebron today, 1929 is as real as yes-

terday, and to move back into Hebron is to redeem those who were massacred. To now pull out is in their minds equivalent to saying the victims of 1929 died for nothing.

In one of the numerous demonstrations held in the city last month, a group of women held pictures of children killed or wounded in the killed, and more than 50 injured.
One of those pictures was of a frightened-looking curly-haired boy with
a deep gash on his forehead.
That how Shape Shape is trader.

That boy, Shlomo Slonim, is today 68 and lives with his wife in Ra'anana. If the Jews of Hebron have the massacre etched into their taken to the head during the riots.

Slonim is the son of Eliezer Dan Slonim, one of the Jewish notables in Hebron. In addition to losing his father, Slomm also lost his mother, brother and maternal grandparents.
A fifth-generation Hebronite, Skonim was one year old when the

massacre took place. "Ever since I can remember, I - when the grandfather died seven years later - by an annt. His grandfather did not talk much about the ferent. I knew my grandfather was not my father. I knew about what happened." events, "but I smelled something dif-

Switching to the third person, Slouin said: "For an infant to be in a house where a massacre is taking place, to hear the screams, it pene-trates his brain. And then everything is gone, everybody is gone. This is

Twenty-three people were killed in the Slorim home, where some 70 people sought refuge. Many of the city's Jews thought the Slorim home would be a safe haven, since Eliezer

The 1929 riots began on August

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The Palestinians may be the greatest beneficiary of a new political reality following Clinton's re-election, Barry Rubin writes

a moderate speech to a UN meeting.

Instead, Arafat took a hard line,

claiming that Israel's 10-agorot coin

showed a map of its plan to take

over the region. Arafat's support for

Saddam Hussein during the Kuwait

crisis did even more damage to his

Just a few weeks ago, when US

negotiations coordinator Dennis

Ross was urgently seeking a break-

through on Hebron to make Clinton

look good before the elections,

Arafat left on a trip to Europe at a

critical moment. Thus, if Arafat does

not do enough to stop terrorism,

makes demagogic statements, or is unyielding in his own right, the

Clinton administration can easily argue that both sides are at fault. In

this case, there is going to be little impetus for the US to put pressure

Part of the Palestinian movement's problem is that even today it has a

remarkably poor understanding of

US motivation and views. In gener-

al, they are tempted to adopt one of two stances toward the US: Either

they view it as an enemy which

always supports Israel (in essence,

Israel's slave) or they want to use it

question of exactly what is the

meaning of the concept "US pressure on Israel." For decades, this

idea and expectation has been raised

without ever examining its meaning. During the history of the Arab-

Israeli conflict, any US pressure on

Israel has been extremely limited in

scope and duration. This is not mere-

ly due to the pro-Israel lobby's effectiveness. The US cannot force an

Israeli government to take action

which it deems dangerous - rightly

or wrongly - for the nation's sur-

vival. To cite an admittedly extreme

but illustrative example, would

Netanyahu agree to a Palestinian

state with its capital in east Jerusalem even if Washington

threatened to cut off all aid and stop

military sales?

(as Israel's master).

own standing in Washington.

ILL Clinton's re-election combined with resignations y Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Defense Secretary William Perry will affect US Middle East policy and US-Israel relations in ways unforeseen by most

In Israel, there are two basic assessments on this issue: government, including Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and its supporters argue there is no imminent crisis in US-Israel relations. In short, that Israel will not have to pay any price in Washington for its current policies on the peace

Critics, perhaps partly from a sense of wishful thinking, claim that Netanyahu's positions are leading Israel into a direct collision with the US which will sacrifice the warm, advantageous links built up during the last four years.

The strange thing is, however, that both predictions may well come true-for US-Israel relations. To begin with, three unique factors form the basis of current bilateral relations: On a personal and individual basis, the Clinton administration is probably the most friendly US govern-ment to Israel in history. Ronald Reagan had warm feelings for Israel but many of his lieutenants were inimical For Richard Nixon, realpolitik overcame real hostility. The Carter and Bush administrations had little feeling for Israel's needs and concerns. With the current incumbents, basically positive orien-

tation will continue. • On a policy level, the basis for a virtually untroubled relationship between 1992 and 1996 was that Israeli and American positions coincided. As long as the two countries had almost identical visions of the peace process, close cooperation was inevitable. Once their stances diffition as they have since Netanyahu's election, trouble begins. But it begins very slowly. The relative lack of US criticism toward Netanyahu so far was not

merely due to an impending American election. Even the Arab states gave him 100 days. The US wanted to give Netanyahu a chance and see what happened, as well as having a large element of wishful thinking about the new government's flexibility.

• The peace process's immediate agenda is also extremely important in setting the agenda for US-Israel relations. The tough part has not yet started but is about to begin. As long as we are still essentially completing the second stage of the Oslo accords, mainly involving Hebron, progress is still possible. Although Netanyahu's government demanded changes in the security arrangements for Hebron, it is still ready to withdraw.

Difficulties will arise as we enter the third and last stage of Oslo, the negotiation of a final-status agreement to decide the future of the territories, east Jerusalem, borders, and so on. Once it becomes apparent that these talks have totally deadlocked perhaps in the spring or early summer of 1997 - Jerusalem and

VIRTUALLY EVERY high official in the Clinton administration who has any opinion at all is close to a Labor Party position, and that applies to the next secretary of state or secretary of defense, whoever

But, the problem is not that the US has a blueprint for the outcome it wants. Rather, the key point is that the US fervently wants the two sides to reach a solution, given American interests, responsibilities as the peace process's patron, and the personal plus political benefits to be gained by claiming credit for success.

For 1997 and beyond, then, the main factor is who the US will blame for the failure, crisis, and confrontation resulting from a breakdown in negotiations. Since Netanyahu's government largely rejects any compromises over Palestinian statehood, east Jerusalem, yielding territory, or dismanding settlements, it is the logical candidate. The Western media has already made up its mind, to the point of practically incorporating the word "hardline" into Netanyahu's

The Clinton administration would be inclined toward the same view. But there is one man who can save US-Israel relations and prevent a rift. That man is Yasser Arafat. If Arafat seems flexible and reasonable, moderate and willing to move forward, he can take advantage of the differences between the two

Still, he has often failed to do so in the past. For instance, in 1990 when US-Israel relations were in a bad state over prime minister Yitzhak Shamir's refusal to accept the US plan for talks. Washington offered to nvite Amfat to America if he made

THY, asks Yona Hasson, is there a museum of the 1929 massacre in Beit Hadassah but no museum of Hebron Jewish life?

Hasson, descendant of one of the most prominent old-time Hebron Jewish families, feels that shows, more than anything else, the mind-set of the present

On consideration, it is surprising that the new community which considers itself the spiritual heir of the old community, and occupies their buildings, does not devote more attention to their "ancestors" lives. Even as a propaganda tool, a museum of everyday Jewish life in Hebron 80 years ago showing Jews at work as grape growers, wine producers, cheese makers, silk weavers, cloth dyers, merchants and bank clerks, would provide a healthier sense of continuity between the old and the new communities.

Instead, today's settlers convey the unmistakable impression that their presence is primarily an act of revenge against the Arabs for the blood of the 67

They claim to speak in the name of the slaughtered ones. for stirring them up. "The police Many viewed the 1994 Baruch may have been negligent, but

There's more to Hebron's history than bloodshed

Goldstein massacre of 29 Moslems to be partial vengeance for Tarpat, the 1929 massacre, and many said Goldstein prevented a new Tarpar that Arabs were planning that week.

Hasson, a political liberal, would be content to see a museum of Jewish life to redress the balance. Haim Hanegbi-Bajayo, a 60-year-old peace activist, says that even such a museum of Jewish life would be "invalid" if it did not show how that community interacted with the dominant Arab society over many years. "I do not want the whole story

of Jews and Arabs who lived many years together to begin and end with the massacre," he said. In fact, a Jewish community continued to exist in Hebron until 1936.

Not that Hanegbi plays down the Arab responsibility for the 1929 massacre. Arabs often blame the British police there

Jewish residents of the City of the Patriarchs pay little attention to their predecessors' lives,

the truth is the Hebron Jews were killed on account of a

Jon Immanuel

reports

struggle with Jewish nationalism in which they had no part." Hanegbi has an impeccable blood-line, nine generations of ancestors lived in Hebron, he says. But between himself and today's settlers he feels there is nothing in common. "The set-

tlers have no right to speak as the descendants of those who lived there. They have no right to use our property as their own."
In 1807, a distant forebear,
Haim Ha-Mitzri, bought five

dunams on the current site in the name of the Jewish community. "in a full and recognized sale according to Sharia law," the title deed said. This property, now the whole-

sale market, is at the heart of the latest friction between settlers and Arabs. Settlers say it is property stolen from the victims of Tarpat. Arabs say it is Wakf property. This issue prompted Hasson, Hanegbi and other descendants of Hebron Jews to meet with Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe last Sunday.

Hanegbi concedes that much of the market is in fact Jewish communal property, but it is not settlers' property, and no one, including himself, can claim it without recognizing Arab property claims from Beersheba to

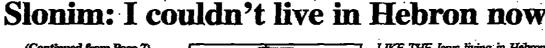
Haifa. The Sansur building alone, in Jerusalem's Zion Square, is owned by a Bethlehem family with indisputable title deeds, he points out, and it is probably worth more than all the property of Jews in Hebron.

At the time of the massacre the Jewish population had dwindled to approximately 430 among 18,000 Arabs, which oddly enough is almost exactly the number of Jews and Arabs who will remain under IDF control when it redeploys.

In modern history, the Jewish population peaked around 1895 when Jews were 10% of the population, or 1,400 among 14,000 Moslems and a handful of Christians.

Hasson, looking for something nice to say about today's set-tlers, recalled that after the Six Day War some went to the Jewish cemetery. There, she said, Arabs had made a tomato patch, and the settlers painstakingly collected pieces of skele tons and chunks of tombstones. including those of her own

grandfather. She was grateful. Good or bad. however, the settlers appeared devoted to the cult of Hebron as



(Continued from Page 7) Jewish youth group conducted a march to the Western Wall, which for months had been the focus of disputes between Jews and Arabs. After he march, writes Howard Sacher in his A History of Israel: From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time, "Moslem agitators traveled through the country, exhorting the peasantry to 'protect al-Aksa against Jewish attacks." The violence started in Jerusalem's Old City, and quickly spread to Hebron, where the Jews were slaughtered

to bypass compromise with Israel Slonim spoke of these events in his dining room in Ra'anana. On the After many years in the first camp wall in front of him were black-andwhite pictures of the family he never and passing through the second one, Arafat progressed to the point of knew. There are separate pictures of direct negotiations with Israel. Yet his father, mother Hana, and fourhe still has illusions about year-old brother Aharon. "These are my parents," he said, pointing to the photos. "For me they have remained Washington giving him the prizes he seeks by forcing Israeli compliance. This whole situation raises the forever young."

> THE SETTLEMENT in Hebron. unlike the first settlement in Gush Etzion, was not started by descendants of those killed there. Whereas Kfar Etzion was set up soon after the Six Day War by descendants of those who fell there in 1948, the settlement in Hebron was spearheaded in 1968 by Rabbi Moshe Levinger.

They understood that a place in Eretz Yisrael where Jews lived, and were massacred, is where Jews should remm." Slonim said approvingly of Levinger. "I agreed with that wholeheartedly. For personal reasons I could not join them. My conscience bothers me about this," he said. "I would have liked to come back,

to continue the family tradition of living there. But I had small children, and was manager of a bank here. It was too late."

(Continued from Page-7) spares him the burden of having to recall daily the memory of what happened. He swings along through the casbah every afternoon to his book-keeping job at Alya Hospital, seemingly reconciled to his condition and reluctant

THE PAIN of parents who lost children cannot be measured. But apart from several killed, there are many more who were orphaned, like Rana Wardeh, aged 12, who smiles and says her father Wael "is in paradise.

The casbah, being so close to the Tomb of the Patriarchs, contributed a large number of the morning worshipers who prayed there on that fateful day, and an equally large number of Goldstein's casualties.

They live cheek by jowl with the settlers and the soldiers, bearing the brunt of curfews and settler retaliation whenever there have been attacks on Jews in Hebron. The casbah is a shortcut between Beit Hadassah and the Cave of



Shlomo Slonim: We have to remember the 1929 riots and learn from them. (Sarit Uziely)

Hebron's Arnon said he does not know of any massacre survivors who went back to live in the city.

During the conversation, Slonim pulled out pictures of himself bandaged in head and hand and held by his aunt. He also took out books on Hebron that mention his family. Learning aids, it seems, an attempt to hold on to any physical manifestation of the family he never knew.

Truth be told," he continued, "I could not live in Hebron now, I could not live surrounded by so many

3. Slonim has kept up his connection with the city over the years by yearly visits to the ancient Jewish cemetery where his parents are buried, and by monthly visits to the Machpela Cave. He has perpetuated the memory of his parents and brother by naming three of his four chil-dren after them. His son, Eliezer Dan, is an Egged bus driver, who once a month drives a group of worshipers from Ra'anana to the Machpela Cave.

pounded by the belief that the parents of the Arabs in the casbah today may have turned on their Jewish neighbors 67 years ago in the great massacre of Tarpat.

Today, soldiers are under instructions to prevent not just Israelis but also Jews from entering the dark tunnel into the casbah. It is true that, more than in any other West Bank Palestinian town, the local Moslems are as interested in knowing the religion of those with whom they talk as their nationality. For among the settlers and their supporters are many who come speaking foreign languages.

The Jews send all their rubbish from around the world to live here," said Abd-Muayz Sidr, whose casbah Turkish delight factory was ignited by settlers four years ago.

Some time soon the casbah dwellers and some hillside suburbs will remain alone among the urban Palestinian population under IDF rule, as they watch 80 percent of the city around them being handed over to the Palestinian Authority. The most

LIKE THE Jews living in Hebron, Slonim is adamantly opposed to redeployment in Hebron. The Oslo agreements are a disaster," he said, launching into a tirade against them.

"Giving parts of Eretz Yisrael to the Arabs goes against all the values I was raised on. On a personal level, it gives me the feeling that the victims of the massacre died in vain. My family worked so Hebron would be a Jewish city. What we are doing by giving the city to them is giving them a prize for their violence."

That the Jewish enclave will remain in Israeli hands is for Slonim but little consolation - both because he feels the Arabs will choke off any development there, and for fear they could again come down from the hills and attack the Jews. "The IDF will also be in danger," he said. They won't shoot into a mob, they will be afraid to shoot at them. Look what happened at Joseph's Tomb."

If that's the case, if both the Jews and the IDF will be in danger in Hebron, would it not be better to move the Jews to Kiryat Arba?.

"No," said Slonim. "First of all Jews should be there, in property owned by Jews. Secondly, if Jews are not in Hebron, no one will visit the Machpela Cave. And finally, if you withdraw because of violence. you are only encouraging more violence. By living there, Jews are fulfilling the legacy of tarpat."

Wouldn't it be better to forget about 1929, and move forward? "We have to remember, and learn from it." he said. "One of the lessons to take from tarpat is that it is forbidden to trust the Arabs, to depend on them. My family trusted them. Look at the results." In newspaper articles and history books, Hebron is as often followed by the word "massacre" as it is by

GOLDSTEIN

believe they are being left to the

devices of the descendants of the

Arabs who murdered 67 Jews in

1929 and then stole their property.

large sign put up by the settlers of

the Avraham Avinu quarter tells

them that the market which many

consider their own property, is

stolen Jewish property. Inside the

casbah many Stars of David have

NO ARAB thinks the new rela-

tionship will work. The 18,000

Palestinians, out of 100,000 who

will live under the same security

regime as the 400 Jews, will still

outnumber them by a margin of 40

to 1. The redeployment will seem

to give political sanction to the

division of Hebron into Jewish

and Arab parts which will make

Jews more arrogant and tense, and

invite Arab attempts to sabotage it.

wood with many wild animals

"Living here is like walking in a

been scrawled on doors.

Lest the casbah people forget, a

"Slonim's parents, grandparents and four-year-old brother were killed in the 'Tarpat' riots. the word "patriarchs," or the names killed people whom they knew, who

"Herod" and "King David." There is the 1929 massacre, and there is the 1994 massacre, when Baruch Goldstein killed 29 Moslems in the Machpela Cave. Slonim bristles at any comparison.

There is no comparison between the two events," he said. "In 1929, masses of Arabs took part. They

not improve relations. Palestinians say property claimed by Jews is Wakf property, leased and not sold, so that eventually it would have reverted to Moslem ownership. Even if Jews were compensated for their loss of the leasehold, this would be more than Arabs have received for the loss of property inside pre-1967 Israel. As for Amon's claim that Jews would only demand buildings currently unoccupied, the merchants point out that they are empty only because many have fled under the powerful deterrent of a settler-IDF presence which has destroyed business.

Ironically, the casbah dwellers compare the Jews they see in Hebron today unfavorably with the peaceful Jews who lived there before 1929. The 1929 Jews accepted Arab rule and had no political claims. They accepted the status quo concerning prayer in the mosque, which kept them outside. They were victims of the developing political claims of Zionist Jews elsewhere, and the "real criminals" were the British who actually stirred up Arabs and

were their friends. People who did them no harm. "Goldstein acted alone, and after he treated victims of Arab terrorism.

That is what drove him to his act. What the Arabs did was a pogrom. They killed, they raped, they looted. They burned holy books. There is simply no companson."

political control over the city and Haram al Ibrahimi, Maswadi adds. "Why is the settler afraid? His own words have created terror in his heart," he asserts.

Indeed, while individual settlers have been attacked. Hebron and Kiryat Arba were spared the horrific revenge attacks after the Goldstein massacre when many on the left said that prime minister Yitzhak Rabin should evacuate Hebron settlers to Kiryat Arba, not only for Israel's good but for their own protection.

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The answer is self-evident to Hebron Palestinians. It was not just that an attack in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem could be considered more painful to Israel than an attack in Hebron. Terrorists could have done both. Many of the suicide attacks originated in Hebron, but, "if there had been an attack on Hebron Jews, the army would have slapped a curfew on the whole city for months, and made life so difficult that nobody would have supported Hamas," said Nayef Hashlamoun, director of Hebron's Alwatan Center for Non-

about," says Maswadi. Violent Communication. "After An announcement by settler killed Jews, themselves disguised Machpela, and the merchants are embittered Moslem victims of used to seeing soldiers strolling Jewish violence will find themspokesman Noam Amon yesterday, as Arabs," Maswadi says. Today's redeployment the army won't be Hebron Jews, on the other hand, able to do that in 80 percent of through. But settlers rarely walk selves in a closer bond than ever that settlers planned to occupy 20 are clearly there to assert Israel's there. Today's dangers are comwith the 400 armed settlers who empty buildings in the casbah, will ISRAEL Offers for POST **HOTELS & TOURS** 198 Hayarkon St. - opp. Hilton, Visit Canada New York Australia Thailand JORDAN & South Africa SYDNEY Bangkok TORONTO & MONTREAL \$594 Air \$1485 Air \$199 plus 3 ribs hotel Largest selection of tours OPHIR WEEKENDS SEYCHELLES :1046 r/t air 3nts. hotel Jordan 1 to 4 days Egypt 2 to 9 days Amsterdam \$425 Munich \$473 Hanukka Madrid \$448 \$411 Prague London \$392 incl. Nile cruises ORLANDO 899 Budapest Paris Barcelona \$411 Call the Experts: \$388 \$377 5 rbs hotel - 1 week car. Michael, 02-6252777, Istanbul \$424 \$289 Rome Cyprus London \$589 Debbie 03-5229625 \$269 Call your **Ophir** Tours office NAHARIYA BEERSHEVA KRYAT SHIKOKA NETANYA RISHON-LE-ZION TEL AVIV GIVATAYIN Marcese 141 Alver St. Shoshanna Baller 15 Smilansky St. 33 Tarna St. UNIVERSITY | 02-6252777 198 Hayarkon Si Tsachar Building Kanyon Ha Zahay 121 Kazzenelson 03-6428982 **09**-7741125 **04-**9927696 **06**-6247931 **04**-867301 07-6278515 **09**-615027 06-940245 03-9626726 03-6733376 **06**-8426363

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OVER THE next four years, another important constraint on a US-Israel rift is the Republican control of Congress. If Dole had won the election, the Senate and House of Representatives might well have gone along with that hostile politician's attempt to coerce Israel. But with a Democrat in the White House, Congress will snipe at any moves he makes against Israel for purely partisan reasons, aside from any other considerations. The most important single change

in US policy has largely gone unnoticed. Warren Christopher is closely identified with making an Israel-Syria breakthrough his pet project and, it often seemed US foreign pol-icy's top priority. Given its failure despite four years of effort and Washington are bound to disagree. countless trips to the region, it is unlikely that his successor will do the same. Formally, the US position will not change but it will have a much lower rank on the American

So what are the prospects for US-Israel relations during the second Clinton Administration, with its somewhat altered team? Clearly, relations will cool considerably from what they have been during the last four years. Israel is not likely to get any new benefits from the US government. American rhetoric is going to be far more critical of Netanyahu

and his policies, especially if there is a large-scale expansion of Jewish settlements. The US is unlikely to make a serious attempt to promote Israel's acceptance by Arab states. Ironically, the best weapon in the American arsenal is the personal one. By flattering the US-oriented and image-obsessed Netanyahu who does not want to seem responsible for a disastrous turn in bilateral relations - Clinton can gain small

concessions over matters like

Hebron and on symbolic issues. But

this will have no real effect on the serious final-status questions. Arafat and the Palestinians will have to give the US a real incentive to take a tougher stance on Israel. The Palestinian Authority must safeguard its own access to US aid from a Congress unenthusiastic about providing such help,

And it is hard to see the form US pressure on Israel would take. Despite the Likud's groundless complaints about alleged American efforts to influence Israel's 1992 and 1996 elections - as well as any opposition hopes to the contrary US policy is hardly a deus ex machina that will bring Labor back to power or reverse Israel's course.



Director of the Bank of Israel Jacob Frenkel (right) chats with Industry and Trade Minister

Egypt sold itself in Cairo

Despite initial doubts about the success of the summit, participants are feeling positive about it. **David Harris** reports

OR months before the conference. Israel's business community fell victim to the region's politicians. President Hosni Mubarak led a failed. A week ago, Egypt's ambassador attempt to link the peace process to Tel Aviv, Mohammed with the Middle East North Africa Bassicumy, said "This is no longer many threats to emanate from



Cairo was: "No Hebron withdrawal; no summit." However, despite the rhetoric, 3,500 delegates arrived in Cairo ready for Mubarak's opening address on

While welcoming the world's politicians, civil servants and business people, the president used the opportunity to sell his country's economic reform program and apparent recovery - a budget deficit of 1.2 percent of GDP in 1996, and 6% inflation predicted for next year, he proudly reported. "This year Egypt joined the world economy," he added.

Yet, traveling through Cairo's streets, where traffic causes a thick smog and where the city's 13 million inhabitants all seem intent on causing as much mayhem on the road as possible, one is painfully aware of the intense hardship and overwhelming poverty that envelops the vast majority of the population of this and every other

Egyptian city, town and village.
While the Egyptian government
has successfully sold more than 100 of its companies in recent years, the benefits are clearly not being reaped by the average Cairo inhabitant. It seems far more likely that the lion's share of the profits economic and social - is split among Egypt's elite, including the dozens of impeccably attired businessmen attending their "home" conference.

These entrepreneurs have this week had the opportunity to show potential foreign investors what Egypt in general and their companies in particular have to offer. And it would seem the foreign delegates were keen to see the goods. Throughout the three-day event, executives from the likes of Amoco, General Electric and Renault could be seen in discussions with local businesspeople.

Indeed, by the time the event itself commenced, even Foreign Minister David Levy, was calling the event "the Cairo conference."

nomic conference," everyone in the room realized that he accepted that Egypt would, in all likelihood,

be the main beneficiary.

While Egypt is calling the "summit" a "conference," many have highlighted that the sambbing of the non-invited Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has acted as a put-down to the official government delegation from Jerusalem. But, at the same time, it gave Israel's businesspeople a green light to look for investment opportimities, joint ventures and new

"This is now a business confersaid Manufacturers' ence." Association president Dan Propper. "Business people can feel the potential. There's a real positive tension in the air, of people who know that they can find here potential partners." Yet there were also those in Cairo who saw that potential, but believed that the Israelis did not seem that keen to

ble. "Look at all the Israelis congregating together," said one Egyptian official, "They must learn to mix." But that is exactly what some, if not all, of the delegation came to

turn it into something more tangi-

Cairo to do. "The advantage of the conference is that you are not working all the time," said Arkia Medical managing director Barbara Faktor. "Having the same meeting [following the Casablanca and Amman summits] every year, with the same people and more, there will be very good progress." On the whole, Israel's business community received a warm welcome, and even where it was more reserved, Arab businesspeople seemed able to distinguish between Israeli politician and entrepreneur.

There is no stability in Israel today," said Mohamed Rayan from the Egyptian Foreign Investment and Touristic Development Company. Looking to create a transportation corridor between Jordan, Israel and Egypt, Rayan is for now hunting only in Jordan for a strategic partner in the \$10 million project. But, adds Rayan, when the time is right politically, he will immediately look to Israel. "We will be happy to contact them. Economic cooperation is the best way forward."

Some foreign investors take a pragmatic view. "Investments to me," said one.

Christine Todd Whitman, who visited Israel this week. talks with Jennifer Friedlin

New Jersey

Governor

TIRST there was Geraldine Ferraro's vice-presidential bid. Then came the Year of the Woman and an unprecedented number of women gained seats in the US Congress.
Today, with an increasing num-

ber of American women breaking through the glass ceiling and tak-ing on positions of power, there is one question that still remains: Is America ready to elect a female

New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman, a fiscally conservative, socially moderate Republican and the US's only woman governor, who this week paid a visit to Israel, has only one answer: Yes, absolutely, yes.

Does this mean the 50-year-old patrician Whitman, a shining star in the Grand Old Party's post-election cloudy sky, has her sights set on the White House come the year

While she denies having ambitions beyond a second term as New Jersey's governor - her first term ends in 1997 - there is no doubt that the Republican party, which selected her to counter President Clinton's 1995 state-ofthe-union address and considered her as a potential Bob Dole running mate, is watching Whitman, one of their most powerful and palatable representatives.

Unlike those in the far right's anti-abortion, anti-free international trade, anti-women and gaysin-the-military camp, Whitman, who is lauded for cutting New Jersey's income tax by 30 percent and creating 117,000 new jobs, stands for a more centrist, pragmatic, Rockefelleresque platform.

In addition to her fiscal savvy, she is known for her ability to tackle tough problems head on, her pro-choice stance, her belief that sexual orientation and gender should not keep a person from any job, including military positions, and her efforts to foster relationships with international partners.

"are about making money, not

international borders. If I find what

I'm looking for in Israel, or any-

where else for that matter, I'm

Sportswear. In his view those who

came to do business and look at

profits have to win. Those who

stayed away can in no way benefit,

said Minister of Economy and Trade Maher Masri. While he

understands the decision of

Palestinian businesspeople to stay

away, he believes they are guilty of

Koor managing director Benny Gaon is among those favoring the

long-term approach.

"Peace is a long-term invest-ment," he said, "there are no win-

ners or losers today, but at the end

of the day, all those who partici-

pate in the peace process are going

WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

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There are those who believe that everyone who participated in Cairo

Fabulous

ready to sign."

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an error of judgment.

Accompanied by a 100-member trade delegation of New Jersey businesspeople, Whitman, who is tall and blonde with a commandlong term. Josef Wassef owns the ing presence, delivered the opening night's address at the Jerusalem Business Conference and spent six days touring Israel's cultural and historical sights.

"Israel is such an important trading partner because it's a gateway to the Middle East," says Whitman, noting that Israel is New Jersey's sixth largest trading partner, having imported nearly \$744 million worth of New Jetsey's exports in 1995. Approximately 30 Israeli businesses are headquartered in the garden state.

Whitman, who decided not to visit the Hasmonean Tunnel due to possible political implications. prefers not to voice her opinion on highly charged issues such as

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Will she be America's

first woman president?

Governor Whitman: Fiscally savvy, she is known for her ability to tackle tough problems head on. (Debbie Taylor-Zimelman)

the Golan Heights and Jerusalem, but says she is sensitive to the complexity of the local situation. After visiting the Golan Heights she says "you come away with an appreciation of the situation here and the pressure and concerns fac-

WHITMAN COMES from an upper-crust Protestant background with deep roots in the Republican party. The youngest of four children, Whitman grew up at Pontefract, a 232-acre farm, where she learned to ride horses and hunt

Her father, Webster Todd, was the New Jersey Republican chairman, and her mother, Eleanor, was vice chairman of the Republican National Committee

Whitman's husband and political adviser, John with whom she has two teenaged children, is the grandson of a former governor of

Throughout her political life Whitman has been a steadfast middle-of-the-road Republican. After graduating from Wheaton College with a degree in government, she worked on Republican campaigns and began developing projects geared towards reaching out to groups who have traditionally supported the Democrats, such as the elderly, women and the

In the 1980s she was appointed to the Board of Public Utilities and in 1990 she came within three percentage points of bearing the incumbent senator, Bill Bradley. In 1993, running on the promise to slash income taxes, she unexpectedly unscated Jim Florio by a narrow margin of 49%-48%.

While critics take issue with Whitman for creating only a quarter of the 450,000 jobs she promised and for being an unapologetic millionaire, according to opinion polls more than 60% of New Jerseyans support

And, although Whitman's brand of liberal Republicanism may be scoffed at by the more extremist members of the GOP, she says the center is where the people are at and what many politicians on both the state and national levels are

As Congress cuts Federal support of state-run programs, she says many Republicans, namely mayors Rudolph Giuliani of New York and Brett Schundler of Jersey City (in New Jersey) are taking control of developing social service programs.

On the gubernatorial level she says her administration is reaching out to communities to develop programs based on what the peo-ple want, rather than what Congress determines they need.

And even though Bob Dole failed in his recent presidential election bid, Whitman finds proof of American support for the GOP. Besides the fact that Americans voted for a Republican Congress— the only time since 1928 that Republicans kept control of Congress in back-to-back elections - at the executive level President Clinton supported the Welfare Reform Act, which was a Republican-initiated piece of legislation.

In fact, Whitman says, Clinton's victory was a vote of confidence for the GOP's platform.

"People voted for Clinton because they didn't want to jeopardize anything," she says. They are just making ends meet now. And the economy is growing, at an anemic rate, but it's growing.

"The voters did support the Republican ideas and ideology; they revoted for the House and Senate [and] the president moved himself so much to the center. When the Republicans came up with welfare reform he vetoed it twice and then signed it the third time and ran on it.

If what she says is accurate, her own positions seem right in time with the American people. So, what about the year 2000? She insists she has no presiden-

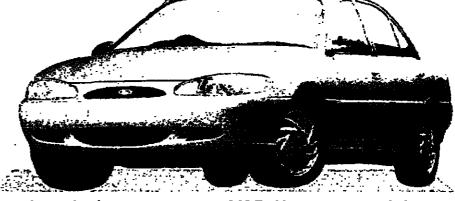
tial aspirations, but then the final

question is: Why not?



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"alternative" medicine, consti-

year. "The hospital was very receptive when I proposed such a department," says its head, Dr. Shay Pintov. "The underlying idea was to gather all the different nonconventional medicine methods under a single roof. from the traditional folk practices, to accepted complementary techniques which extend normal therapeutic practice, to therapies that claim healing powers, but are still not scientifically based. It's part of a trend throughout the Western world: People today are increasingly aware of their own health, and tired of chemical medical solutions.'

The Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem was another carly entrant in the field, opening its Complementary Medicine Clinic in 1990 "as a result of popular demand," says its head, Dr. Martine Toledano. "There's a crowded market for this kind of medicine, with part of that crowd doing it major discredit by promising wonders and miracles. It was clear to us there was a place for the practice of complementary medicine by pro-

Li Ri Sc ki

PROST TREATMENT OF THE STATE OF

Alternative practices and folk remedies find a home in the health establishment, reports Wendy Elliman

diarrhea, ulcers, skin disorders

IN ADDITION to clinical work.

doctors are also anxious to

understand how relaxation and

other natural-medicine tech-

niques work - to bring them in

from the cold and into the main-

stream of medical science.

Investigation of the physiologi-

cal and biochemical processes of

tension that cause or aggravate

illness have shown that changes

occur in the cells in stressed indi-

viduals. The challenge is to make

Research into hypnosis - a

5,000-year old practice accepted

as a therapeutic technique by the

American Medical Association

only in 1958 - has found evi-

dence that cellular changes take

place in the body, alongside atti-

tude changes. A California sur-

geon, Dr. Peter Mutke, even

claims hypnosis stimulated cellu-

lar growth in the breasts of 20

women who came to him in

search of larger mammary glands. Acupuncture is believed to work by making the body

release greater amounts of natur-

al painkilling hormones known

Research into natural and folk-

healing techniques is a growing

field worldwide. Israel's first and

so far only academic research

unit in this area is the Natural

Hadassah two years ago, under British-born physician Dr. Sarah

Sallon. "Traditional medicine

systems are a potential treasure

house," she says. "Many traditional medicines work as well or

better than conventional ones,

but their recipes are incompre-hensible in the West because

they're not written in the lan-

guage of modern ścience.

Disciplines like yoga and tai ch'i

are more than exercise regimens:

They're mind-body empower-

ment techniques that have devel-

oped in the East over thousands

and, if possible, explain natural

therapies and disciplines that can

Research

that opened at

and cancer.

sense of them.

as endorphins.

Hospitals welcome

fessional medical doctors." Although the Hadassah clinic is staffed entirely by physicians, who assess biochemical test results and CT scans before deciding on treatment, most Jerusalem doctors were initially unwilling to refer their patients. They didn't believe in what they couldn't explain scientifically," says Toledano. "But things have changed very rapidly and we now get referrals from hospitals and clinics all over the city. Today, most accept that the best way to practise medicine is by recognizing there are many ways to help a patient. Someone with severe backache, for example, can be treated for pain with a shot of Voltarin, with Chinese herbs, acupuncture or reflexology, depending on what's best for him. In short, complementary medicine adds therapeutic tools

to the physician's arsenal." The growth of complementary medical practice is a direct expression of public disillusion with conventional therapies, according to Professor Raphael Melmed, head of Behavioral Medicine at Hadassah in Ein Kerem. "In a typical situation, a patient comes to a doctor with a persistent complaint. He's sent for investigations and consultations in different departments. When there's no clear diagnosis, he tends to be regarded as a nuisance. His doctor, however, is under pressure to treat him, and he can thus become the unfortunate recipient of inappropriate responses from a frustrated physician or surgeon, at risk for procedures which carry high morbidity and even mortality.

Melmed's speciality of behavioral medicine is an important area of complementary medicine. It is of particular help, he says, in dealing with the tensions of illness, or life situations which influence bealth. In essence, it helps patients regain a sense of control over stresses which they feel are out of control, and in so doing restores the equilibrium of living. In the US, over 400 universities now offer some level of behavioral medicine training. In Israel, different relaxation and stress-reduction techniques have been developed for a whole gamut of disorders - among them

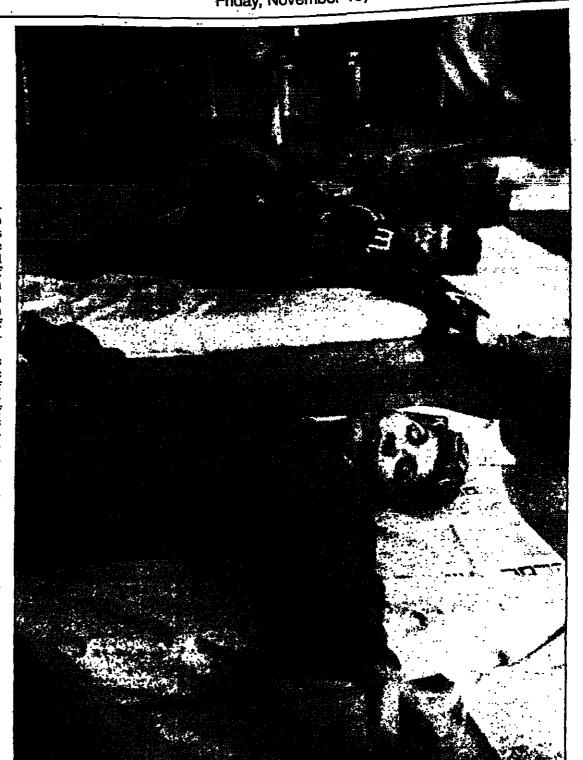
testing honey and propalin produced by bees on special diets, to develop an ointment that heals human burns and ulcers. They've recently completed a controlled scientific study of the efficacy of an ancient Tibetan plant recipe in unclogging painful arteries in elderly legs - a study which headache, migraine, asthma, vasbrought the Dalai Lama himself cular disorders, hypertension, to Hadassah in a show of supanxiety states, angina pectoris,

A ioint NMRU-Canada study is now under way, examining the possible healing properties of some 500 different kinds of seaweed. And a six-month study of mind-body disciplines, such as yoga and tai ch'i ended this summer. Forty nurses from highstress units in Hadassah and a number of senior administrators took part: They reported important and sometimes dramatic improvement, in sleeping, in reduction of backpain, less stress at work and at home, and general wellbeing. Some even gave up

At the request of Hadassah's Nursing Administration, the NMRU is continuing courses for nurses; the Unit is also planning others in tai 'ch'i, chiqung and shiatsu for midwives, women in labor and oncology patients, to see whether these disciplines help both prevent certain diseases and assist in the management of disease entities.

Another major project currently under way is the design of an innovative database of the Middle East's medicinal plants, in conjunction with Israel's National Herbarium. Listing plants and herbs from the healing traditions of Jews, Beduin and Druse, the unit plans, funding permitting, to interview traditional healers from the Jewish and Arab communities. As Sallon points out, some of the best of modern drugs come from similar. sources: digitalis from foxgloves, aspirin from the willow, opiates from poppies and vincristine from the Madagascar periwinkle

Integrated or natural medicine, claim its enthusiasts, has a major role to play in mediating the banes of progress. Its emphasis on mind-body control and relaxation can answer to the relentless stress of post-industrial living. Its insistence on healthy nonprocessed foods speaks for itself. And the way in which it reempowers the patient in his own f years." healing and gives him a greater
The NMRU's job is to validate role in safeguarding his own well-being already takes him several steps along the pathway improve health. Its scientists are to good health.



Nurses from high-stress units at Hadassah relax in a yoga class.

'Your body can look after itself'

HE women are lying on mattresses, breathing deeply. "Look inside yourself," encourages yoga teacher Diane Bloomfield. "Turn your mind to your inner world, to that infinite source of energy that nurtures you. Focus on what's

happening inside your body at this moment." Most focused of them all, most flexible and most adept at the more complicated movements is a woman aged 77. Louise Gartner is visiting from Dallas, Texas, and she has joined the class because she's funding the NMRU's research into yoga and tai ch'i, in its second year. Slender, elegant and unmistakably Texan, Gartner's life passion is natur-

"I've done yoga daily for 50 years," she says. "I read an article about a famous yogi in Life magazine, and went across to Mexico to study with her. In 1947, I started a daily yoga class in the Pageboy Maternity factory, where I was a designer for 26 years. It was an unusual thing at that time and in

Gartner read about Dr. Sarah Sallon's work in The Texas Jewish Post last year, and got in touch with her. "She's my catalyst," says Gartner. "I want to help her unit's research, because doctors want evidence before they'll believe anything. So I'm going to help her get the evidence, even though I know that it's there."

Among Gartner's plans is supporting the introduction of natural-medicine courses at medical schools both at Hadassah and in Texas, "Medical schools concentrate too heavily on teaching their students how to get someone well when they're critically ill," she says. "I think we should learn from the ancient Chinese, that a doctor's more important job is to maintain health. And you do that by treating the body Once I learned about vitamin C, my children never had antibiotics again!"

"I firmly believe if you eat right from the time you're a child, you build your body strong, and then, if you keep it strong, it can look after itself."

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The dates: Thursday, November 21 -Saturday, November 23

The price: NIS 980

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Israel gets the brush-off at US Jewish federations meet

US Jewish fundraisers gave Israel short shrift at

bomb scare cut short the opening session Wednesday night of the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations. That may have been the single moment of excitement of the sluggish, four-day event.

Some 3,000 lay and professional leaders from American fund-raising agencies converged on this Pacific Northwest city for an assembly that is considered the highlight of the Jewish communal year. Not this year. "There's a malaise," said Sandi Goldstein of the Los Angeles federation.

So when Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu canceled his personal appearance - scheduled for last night - to attend to the Hebron talks, it simply deflated an aiready numb agenda.

The assembly, which was shy of compelling issues, also seemed to give Israel short shrift. That was

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their conference this week. Marilyn Henry reports from Seattle that the assembly made a polite job of glossing over its differences

startling, given that federations are signed to delivering "remarks" at would change any aspect of the the main link between most the assembly's opening - which Law of Return or the "current situ-American Jews and Israel.

The Jewish Agency, the vaunted partner of the American fund-raisers, was a wallflower in Seattle. Agency head Avraham Burg was not scheduled to be part of last night's main event, the international plenary. Instead, Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav was scheduled to make a presentation on the Israel Experience. And, to add insult to injury, Burg was con-

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then were canceled by the bomb

The hottest issue was proposed legislation barring Reform and Conservative conversions in Israel. However, that was dispensed with in a short, cordial debate at a meeting Wednesday of the board of del-

The board approved a resolution urging the Netanyahu government to abstain from legislation that

ation."

There was some minor tussling about the language - and punctuation - of the resolution, but there was no passionate debate about the significance of the legislation, or whether this topic was even within the council's domain. It was as if everyone decided to behave themselves once the board meeting was called to order, despite days of backstairs debates about whether this would be a recun of the 1988 "Who is a Jew" imbroglio. And they glossed over the question of whether it should be treated as an internal Israeli matter, or one that should engage the 189 autonomous federations of North American Jewry, whose primary purpose is fund-raising.

When the council's board did address the legislation, the mood like much of the rest of the assembly - was resigned. The legislation likely "will happen, notwithstanding what we may do today." David Minkin, an Atlanta attorney who leads a council panel on religious pluralism, told delegates before the

The overall lack of attention to Israel has been growing steadily for nent was devoted to mourning prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, sandwiched between events on fund-raising and Jewish spirituality.

But the absence of a clear Israel agenda does not mean the community is concentrating its attention elsewhere. The various segments of the community each face their own internal dilemmas.

The federation world is struggling to maintain local social services amid budget cuts at the US federal level, while fund-raising is only now starting to emerge from a years-long slump. Federations also are trying uneasily to work out a modus vivendi for the different streams of Judaism, which are demanding a greater voice in federation decisions - even though they can't agree with each other.

Within the religious streams, there is ferment. There are battles for the souls of the Orthodox and Conservative movements, which are feeling pressure from both the left and right within their ranks. Perhaps the hottest cauldron is the Reform movement, which has undergone a seismic generational shift in leadership.

Reform ultimately may take the biggest drubbing for leading the campaign among American Jews against the conversion legislation. Some have suggested that the Reform movement's push for civil rights in Israel may collide with its commitment to democracy.

These Americans love their democracy even more than pluralism," said one bemused Israeli observer here. "Israel is also a democracy. Are they going to say a number of years, according to that democracy is fine, except veterans of CJF assemblies. Last it gives the haredim power?" that democracy is fine, except when

spices, and grace after meals, to the Havdala candle - conveniently packed in a pouch

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Who needs economic summits?

PINHAS LANDAU

unlike professional and academic

conferences, where the politicians

serve as adornments but have no

say. In politics, the perception is

often the reality, so much so that if

there is something to be gained by

depicting an event - whether an

economic conference, an inter-gov-

ernmental summit, or whatever -

as a failure, that view will be ped-

dled to the media. The latter in any

case prefer failures to successes,

because they are more popular (i.e. the consumer is a bloodsucker, not

A business agenda is usually

much more down-to-earth and

focused on tachles. To business-

men, a conference can serve as an

ice-breaker (the Casablanca

Conference was the ultimate exam-

ple of this genre), or as a place to

get many like-minded people

together (Amman last year), or sim-

ply as a way of receiving and send-

ing messages and information, via formal speeches, informal cocktail

The Cairo Conference, because

of the political circumstances in

which it was held, highlighted this

message/information function, but

this is a basic element of all big

conferences. This demonstrates

that, even in the much-ballyhooed

"information age," when video-and tele-conferencing is common-

place and information of every

kind can be communicated in

umpteen different ways, there are

parties and merely being there.

just the media).

HIS week has seen two major economic conferences, one in Jerusalem and one in Cairo. There were two other Israel-focused conferences in New York, one in late September and one in early October. Next week, there's yet another Israel conference, this time high-tech oriented and located in Los Angeles.

The plethora of economic events inevitably raises a basic question in many minds: Do these events have any useful purpose, other than to generate photo opportunities for politicians and allow them to make speeches - as well, of course, as filling airline seats, hotel rooms, and column inches or air-time in the media?

The answer, on balance and perhaps surprisingly, is yes. By no means everyone likes them, and certainly not every conference is successful - some are downright flops - but they do serve a number of useful and valid functions.

Before identifying what these might be, it's worth stressing that the kind of conferences being discussed here are the catch-all, megaconferences that discuss most everything and try to attract everybody under the sun. These are quite different from the ever-increasing number of professional gatherings, trade shows, seminars, academic forums, etc., etc., each with their own focus and target audience.

For example, under the nose of this week's Jerusalem Business Conference, the proceedings of the Sixth Jerusalem Conference on Accountancy were under way. While this didn't get the massive media attention awarded Jerusalem and Cairo, its more modest agenda was better aligned to the profes-

sional needs of its audience, and hence more likely to satisfy the hopes of both the organizers and

This highlights what is perhaps the key characteristic of catch-all, jamboree-style international economic conferences: the risk of being perceived to have flopped is high, because expectations are so often unrealistic. Whether the blame for this is more easily attached to the media for pumping up expectations to unrealistic levels, or to the politicians for creating the hype in the first place, or to the public relations people who link

you dislike most. But the fact is that the bigger and grander the conference, the more likely it is to be labeled a failure, because it is seen as having fallen short of its expected achievements - which were set at a level that was

the hacks and the pols, depends on

who you are and which of them

The public perception, however, is often wrong. Many participants will come away from these grand events feeling that the time, effort and money spent on travel, lodging and registration fees were well spent. This is either because they succeeded in doing more or less what they personally set out to do or, in the best case, because they came away with some new knowledge, insights or contacts which had never even featured in their pre-conference planning.

A clear distinction needs to be made, in this context, between

some things for which there is no substitute for direct contact and first-hand, subjective experience. Machines help, but human beings still need personal chemistry whether to bond or explode - not political and business agendas. In general, mega-conferences have a high degree of political input, just impersonal electronics.

Because this is so, and known to be so, the very decision to hold a major conference, as well as its form, content and focus represents a statement of intent - and in the context of the kind of conferences we are talking about, this is a statement of political intent. Statements and messages can be misunderstood, garbled and confused: was Cairo, for instance, a conference about the Middle East economy (including Israel), or that of the Arab world (Israel not welcome), or primarily that of Egypt (all foreigners welcome on Egyptian terms)?

This wasn't clear in the run-up to the conference, probably not even to the organizers themselves, certainly not to the Israeli government and business sector. By going, Israeli ministers and businessmen did more than just find out the answer. They defined or re-defined the answer, because their very presence created new messages, or at least altered the pre-existing ones.

That's because conferences, however well-planned they may be, take on their own existence once under way, catalyzing some trends and attitudes, reshaping others and even creating new ones. That's why people keep going to them, because bringing hundreds or thousands of strangers together in a suitable environment tends to generate the kind of interest and interaction you just don't seem to get in your office, or the traffic jam

Dry Bones



Humaneness crippled

What the law does not forbid, let shame forbid,

Agamemnon to Pytrhus in Seneca's The Trojan Women, line 334.

HE penchant of spokespersons of the Israeli left to misquote, misrepresent and sometimes even mock Jewish lore has become notorious in the past four years. One of them last week showed that he has no respect for classical Greek lore either.

Meretz MK Yossi Sarid drew on the legend of Midas and his "golden touch" to tell us that the Netanyahu-led government turns everything it touches into "a hot potato." This, he wrote, it has done to the "lot of gold in the political inheritance which [it] received from the previous government" (The Jerusalem Post, November

He wrote that Midas was given the "golden touch" because he was the most important and famous of the Phrygian kings."

But first and perhaps most important, Midas would have of recent weeks. starved to death amid all that food and drink that turned to gold at his touch if the god Dionysus, who had granted him the touch at his own request, did not afterwards heed his plea to relieve him of the touch.

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· Classiff

State of the top

Why did Dionysus actually bless/curse Midas, son of Gordias and the "Great Mother" goddess Cybele/Rhea, with that touch? It seems that Silenus the Wine Demon, Dionysus's teacher and foster father, once strayed drunkenly into Midas's rose garden. Midas treated him well, and returned him to Dionysus. The god offered to reward Midas by granting him any

wish, and the king asked for the golden touch.

Later, Midas decided a musical contest between the god Apollo and the satyr Marsyas/Pan in favor of the latter, and Apollo punished him by giving him ass's ears. Let's see what analogies Sarid or

anyone else will draw from the accurate Midas story and legend. As for the gold, Sarid says the previous government bequeathed to us - some reliable assayers judge it to be fool's gold.

(See Oskar Seyffert's Dictionary: of Classical Antiquities, revised edition. Meridian, 1956, and Encyclopaedia Britannica.)

THE MIDAS-Silenus episode, and Sarid's misrepresentation of the "golden touch" legend bring to mind the story of Noah, which was part of the Torah portion read in the synagogue four weeks ago (Genesis 6:9-11:32), and which has featured in the Ko

I refer to comedian Gil Kopatch's "revelation" on Israel Television's Channel 1 the other Friday night, that when Noah got drunk after emerging from the ark, he "danced in his tent with his bulbul [willy] showing."

Bulbul is originally the Persian

Arabic name, adapted by Hebrew, of a songbird of the thrush family, nicknamed "nightingale of the East" and in our land, "Eretz Yisrael nightingale." Perhaps because of the bird's size and shape, that word became a local children's euphemism (when euphemisms were still permissible), probably taught them by parents, for the male genitalia.

The euphemism the Torah uses in relating the Noah episode (Genesis 9:18-23) is erva. This means simply "nakedness," but it came to be a exphemism for the human pudenda, especially the woman's (e.g. I Samuel 20:30), and, by extension, any act or sight the Tanach considers shameful.

Kopatch's presentation of the Noah episode is one of the examples several Orthodox fooliticians cited when they raised a furor last week over his irreverent, commen-'tary" on the weekly Torah portion every Friday night on Yair Lapid's entertainment program. Kopatch said, in his defense, that

he seeks to make the Torah attractive to the audience he addresses a secular, younger audience - and he uses language they understand. And he claims his interpretations are not really his own, but his "topical" renditions of such classical commentators Nahmanides. Sarid leaped to Kopatch's

defense, writing: "You [Haredi politicians] don't have a monopoly on the Tanach, [which] belongs to all of us. Even the Hebrew we use is more the language of the sources than the language you use, even if instead of erva we sometimes say bulbul... Yes indeed, even Noah, that 'righteous, wholehearted [man] in his generations' (Genesis 5:9), had a bulbul" (Yediot Aharonot, November 7).

As if we needed Kopatch or Sarid to reveal that Noah, progenitor of the reconstructed human race, had a reproductive organ, which, inebriated, he exposed! (Tee-hee-hee! Giggle-giggle...)
No one – not Gil Kopatch, not

even Shulamit Aloni or Yossi Sarid - surpasses the Torah and the rest of the Tanach and the classical commentators from the talmudic Sages on, in showing the weaknesses of our heroes and, on the other hand, in finding good qualities in our villains.

But the point of the Torah's account, and of the Sages', is not to tell us about Noah's genitals or that he had foibles like you and me. Its purpose is to teach us what the ancient Greeks called aidos, which they "most highly esteemed as the source of dignity, decency, and good, manners" (Brich Heller, "Man Ashamed," Encounter, February 1974). Heller alludes to the shame

Odysseus and Nausicaa show they possess after the Phaiakjan princess's girls come upon Odysseus lying unconscious and naked where he was washed ashore on Skheria island (Homer's Odyssey, Book VI).

realization that nakedness is a cause for shame (Genesis 3:10), saying this marks the beginning of human history. "Without... guilt and shame... Man would not be Man... Even the Greeks in the age of Homer regarded it as natural that the human body, in the presence of others, should be clothed. Even they did not look upon clothes as the cover of nudity, but rather on nudity as being without clothes." He concludes: "If [aidos] is a

sine qua non of humanity, it follows that [today's] campaigns of shamelessness, though they may be waged in the name of liberating ideologies, consciously or unconsciously have as their end the crippling of humaneness."

Time running out for Hanukka donations

HERE'S only three weeks left before Hanukka, and we are running out of time. This past week, our liaison at the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare met with us to discuss Hanukka allocations. Even without the increase in the cost of toys, games and books, we are at present unable to meet last year's grants of NIS 50,000.

Our appeals for more funds have gone unanswered, especially abroad. Therefore, we had to keep last year's allocations, despite the increase in prices. This means that we will not be

Heller also alludes to Adam's able to buy as many toys this year and some youngsters will have to do without. Please help us make this a happier holiday for 16,000 needy

youngsters. Your generosity is the decisive factor in our plans. Don't forget that if more people give just a little, the end result will be a lot.

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Esau, the true deceiver SHABBAT SHALOM

"Isaac trembled a great trembling and said: 'Who then is he that has taken venison and brought it to me, and I have eaten of all before you came, and have blessed him? Moreover, he shall be blessed." (Gen. 27:33)

THE speaker is Isaac. Jacob, who entered his father's tent garbed in goatskins and Esau's garments, has pretended to be Esau in order to trick his father into giving him the blessing due to his older brother. When Isaac discovers Jacob's deception, we expect an angry reaction. Isaac would certainly have been justified had be turned the blessings into curses, just as Jacob feared he would: "Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to him as a deceiver, and I shall bring a curse upon me, and not a blessing." (Gen. 27: 12)

From our perspective, Jacob's anticipated punishment is justified. But the opposite occurs: At the moment of discovery, Isaac declares: "Moreover, he [Jacob] shall be blessed." Blessed? After this deception!? In order to understand Isaac's response, we

have to step back and consider the central subject of our Torah portion, Toldot. Even a basty reading leaves our heads spinning from all the apparent deceptions. Everybody deceives everybody. Esau is deceived by Jacob - twice; Isaac is deceived by Jacob and Rebecca, and Isaac is deceived by Esau. And this later deception is really the mother of all subsequent deceptions. No doubt there are those who love to attack

Jacob, portraying Esau as the oppressed victim. l even had a classmate who wanted to name his son Esau, arguing that Esau and not Jacob deserved the patriarchy! After all, didn't Jacob snap up Esau's birthright with a bowl of pottage, and then, with the aid of his mother, a quickly prepared goat stew, and some of Esan's old clothes, steal the blessing from Isaac, deceiving two people with one meal?!

But if we're going to speak about deception, we have to start at the beginning. Even before been lying to him.

SHLOMO RISKIN

any of the entanglements between Jacob and Esau unfold, the Torah has clearly defined the vast differences between these two brothers: "And the boys grew, and Esan was a cumning hunter, a man of the field, and Jacob was a simple man, dwelling in tents." (Gen. 25:27) The Hebrew words suggest that Esan knew how to entrap or deceive.

Picking up on this, Rashi cites the Midrash, which extracts from the Hebrew yode'a rayid (knowing how to hunt), that Esau had developed the skill of verbal entrapment, tricking his father into thinking he was extremely punctilious in keeping the commandments.

Hence we are hardly surprised to find that "Isaac loved Esan because the hunt/venison [or entrapment/deception] was in his mouth [t:ayid b'fiv - either Isaac's, if it refers to the venison, or Esau's, if it refers to his dishonest tongue and Rebecca loved Jacob." (Gen. 25:28)

Hence, the Bible is suggesting that Isaac, like Lear, was fooled by the child who said the right things at the right time.

And should there be any doubt as to who we're dealing with, the Torah next presents us with a hungry Esau who wants lentil soup from his brother. "Soup in exchange for your birthright," negotiates Jacob. Clearly, Esau should have refused such outrageous terms, going over to the cupboard himself. Does Jacob deceive Esau, or is he merely testing his true pri-

With Esau's act of selling out, the lines are drawn. In broader terms, one brother represents forces unable to delay gratification, and the other represents the forces that can. The problem, however, lies in the fact that Isaac is so imbued with the honesty of his father's house that he cannot imagine that his own son has

But Rebecca sees the world - and Esau - with different eyes. First of all, God Himself (as it were) had told her that two nations were in her womb, and that the elder would serve the younger. And even more to the point, she grew up with Laban, the Aramean - a word linguistically connected with ramai, deceiver, and its repetition three times in our portion suggests that Rebecca knew only too well the sounds of a person speaking with forked tongue.

Perhaps Rebecca sees such a machination as an opportunity to demonstrate Esau's true character. Rebecca cannot criticize Esau, the apple of his father's eye, outright. The Matriarch must demonstrate to her naive husband that he is capable of being tricked, and has misjudged his sons all these years.

Would she ever have answered Jacob's fear of being cursed by saying "upon me be your curse..." had she not understood Isaac's heart perfectly, and known that as soon as he realized that he was capable of being deceived, he would also understand that the same deception had been practiced by Esau all these years? And this is precisely what happens. Esan's

arrival with the venison produces a great trembling in Isaac, possibly evoking the trembling he felt on the altar. He realizes that just as his father once nearly sacrificed him, he has unconsciously been sacri-

ficing Jacob, overlooking the son given over to

study and morality in favor of the son who craves animal blood. Rebecca, sister of Laban the Aramean deceiver, saw it all along. Isaac realizes at last that he is capable of being fooled. Hence, anger directed at Jacob is not appropriate. On the contrary, Jacob is the true heir to the blessing, which is why the key phrase is, "Moreover, and he shall

Jacob is not the deceiver. Esan is, and has been

Shabbat Shalom

Israel's own agony aunt has the answers



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ter category. But it's really

hitting below the belt to file charges against someone with whom one shares a dinner table. Labor MK Offir Pines has joined the witch-hunt against Jerusalem mayor Ehad Olmert. Pines, who was seated a couple of chairs away from Ohnert at last week's gala dinner hosted by the Jerusalem Economic Forum, has filed charges against hizzoner for allegedly using city funds to promore Likud party interests at the Sacher Park festivities at the close of the Jerusalem March. Curiously, fellow Laborite Amos Mar-Haim. who heads the opposition faction at City Hall, did not see fit to report Olmen to the police. But then again Mar-Haim and the aggressively ambitious Pines do not necessarily have the same agenda. THE FOOD on the groaning buffet

LL'S FAIR in love and war -

and politics falls into the lat-

tables was different from the usual fare at local gatherings. It was neither North African nor East European. The cuisine was mainly Filipino because the hostess, Montie Salpeter, who heads the Organization for the Protection of Property Rights, is a veteran immigrant from the Philippines who is married to an Israeli. Salpeter's Tel Aviv apartment was filled last Friday by a large crowd of diplomars' wives, medical practitioners, busi-nesswomen and students whose common language is English and whose common background is

Sugi Sakow, a Malaysian of Indian background who worked as a secretary before she married French diplomat Kosta Sakow, was hopeful that her country would soon open a diplomatic mission in Israel because "Israel is such a beautiful country." Dr. Qian Chun-Yi, who

ENERGENCY

EN SESSION

specializes in Chinese medicine, Chinese herbology and acupuncture, works at the Sheba Medical Center. Another member of the medical profession was general surgeon Maria Concepcion A. Ortillo from the Philippines. Sanchita De from India has a master's degree in commerce, but so far has been unable to secure an Israeli work permit. She is here with her husband, who is studying for an MBA in Tel Aviv. Leiko Uchiyama of Japan, who is manied to a British diplomat, is currently

working as a liaison between the Japanese Embassy and the organizers of the Israel Festival to bring a large delegation of Japanese journalists to cover the event next year. Also present was Phyu Phyu Nyunt, wife of Myanmar ambassador U Lu Maw. The only native Israeli was Vivian Gal, born to an Israeli mother and a Filipino diplomat father. Gal, who grew up in the Philippines and Burma, has an MBA and works for a software company. Married to

Dror, an Israeli studying business

administration, she feels more at

home here than abroad. THE GOLDEN age of Spain. To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Madrid Conference which set the ball rolling for the Middle East peace process, Spanish Ambassador Miguel Angel Moratinos invited some of the key players to a festive dinner at his Herzliya Pituah home. Among those present were Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyaha, former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinians, Faisal Husseini, the Jerusalem-based representative of the Palestinian Authority, Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny and others.

SUCCESSFUL HEART surgery is as good a reason as any to celebrate,

IN CREASED

CLOSURE WEN ERWANT

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

Accused and accusee dine together



Natan Sharansky has been invited to Michael Milken's seminar here next week.

and Noracsy Kroll, wife of Austrian Ambassador Dr. Herbert Kroll, combined this with a welcome luncheon in her elegant home for the wives of recently arrived diplomats, in particular Mastchen Land of South Africa and Dorte Damgaard Statur of Denmark. But the main attraction was bealer and tarot-card reader Dorit Carasso, who three years ago gave up her job as head of the Finance Department of Arutzei Zahav to devote more time to mysti-

Carasso offered to do some shortterm complimentary readings and first off the mark was Nagwa Bassiouny, wife of Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiomy, followed by Sandy Rogers, wife of Australian ambassador Peter Rogers. They and several others who were given readings confirmed

what 's

COING ON?

that Carasso knows her stuff. "I hundreds of guests who conveyed. asked her a good question and she greetings to the king via Jordan's gave me a good answer" said

A SLIGHTLY different theory of relativity. Felix de Marez Oyens, director of Christie's Book Department, was less than subtle at a reception for the opening of the exhibit at the Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus of the Einstein family correspondence which is to be auctioned in New York on November 25. Ovens commented how fitting it would be if these items were to join the Einstein archives which Albert Einstein himself bequeathed to the university. Well, in 10 days we'll know if anyone took

BECAUSE THE Knesset Speaker does not have special premises in which to entertain large delegations of guests, and because the home of Dan and Ludmilla Tichon is too small to accommodate even half the 76-member Israel Bonds women's division delegation which was in Israel this week, Ludmilla Tichon asked two of her good friends with large homes to help out. Devora Rejwan and Shlomit Molcho were more than happy to oblige, and invited other friends to come as well, while Tichon shuttled from one house to the other.

SEVERAL representatives of the Israel offices of American Jewish organizations speculated on Wednesday night whether it was a good sign or a bad sign that US Ambassador Martin Indyk was present at the reception held by Jordanian Ambassador Omar Rifai and his wife Amoud to celebrate King Hussein's 61st birthday. Indyk took time out from hosting Israeli-Palestinian negotiations to join the

by DOSH

AFTER HE FINISHES

with the Bible, he'll

begin satirizing

THE KORAN ...

insult if it happens to be Yosef Buchmann. The well-known philanthropist whose gifts to and investments in Israel come to millions of dollars, became unwittingly involved in a ridiculous imbroglio simply because he agreed to underwrite the cost of the Yitzhak Rabin memorial monument in Tel Aviv. When approached by David Altman, chairman of the Tel Aviv Development Foundation, Buchmann, who considered Rabin a

cavoys. Early arrivals were President Ezer Weizman and for-

mer president Yitzhak Navon, each

of whom had to return to Jerusalem

to attend the special tribute to Rubin

Academy founder and former

The Tel Aviv Hilton baked a huge

complimentary birthday cake, com-

plete with the royal coat of arms and

decorated with marzinan roses. The

cake was displayed beneath a large

portrait of the king, which was

flanked on one side by the Jordanian

flag and on the other by a large flo-

ral arrangement tied with gold rib-

bon. Motti Verses, the Hilton's PR

manager, was on tenterhooks. His

wife Debbie had presented him with

twins three days earlier and the obligations of his job were keeping

him away from his new offspring.

MICHAEL MILKEN, who spent

two years in prison for violating US

security laws, will next week host

Netanyahu and Industry and Trade

Minister Natan Sharansky at a

Milken Institute seminar on Israel's

economy. Milken who has worked

hard at rehabilitating himself since

his release from prison four years

ago, has been a significant investor

in Israel Bonds and a generous

WHAT'S IN a name? A \$200,000

donor to Israel causes.

dancer Hassia Levy Agron.

personal friend, readily agreed. Buchmann did not ask for his name to be linked in perpetuity with that of Rabin's, but the Tel Aviv powers that be had other ideas and put up a sign naming him as the donor. Protests from some quarters prompted Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo to order the removal of all names related to the mornment including those of the designer and the executor. Buchmann might not be miffed if the whole thing had been done quietly, but the issue became explosive when rumors again began flying about the sources of Buchmann's vast earnings in Germany. Buchmann is fed up with having to prove his credentials to those seeking to tarnish his image.

As of next week, Grapeville will be will be will be Wednesdays and Fridays.

Unholy violence returns religiously

THE WEEK THAT WAS MICHAL YUDELMAN

AST week it was comedian Gil Kopatch who was metaphorically put against a wall by haredi and religious Knesset members for daring to read Torah portions on television and interpret them himself. This week the Wall itself became an issue. Indeed the prayer square of the Western Wall turned into a battlefield as the religiously violent again assaulted women, praying women in fact.

Some 80 members of the Women of the Wall, who have been fighting for years for the right to pray in their way at the Wall, came to exercise their right. When three or four of them donned kippot, haredi men watching from their section began shouting such unholy abuse "bitches" and "Nazis," as well as spitting and throwing chairs and other objects at the women.

A large force of policemen rushed to the scene and swept the women off to the parking lot. The husband of one of the women was arrested for trying to prevent a haredi from throwing a chair at the women. Not one of the attacking haredim was arrested. "Too many people praying," said a police spokesman afterwards, adding that the police were "trying to trace the aggressors." "I cannot understand why the police drove away the victims rather than the assaulters," said Jerusalem councillor Anat Hoffman, who is also a member of

the women's group.

The 110 Women of the Wall are mostly Orthodox, except for two from the Reform and six from the Conservative streams. They demand the right to pray at the Wall with kippa, tallit and prayer book. They also want to blow the shofar and read the Torah aloud, and over the past eight years have prayed at the Wall 100 times, while fighting a legal battle for their right to do so. The High Court of Justice in 1989 ruled that women have a right to pray there, But did not detail how they should do so.

In 1993 the women rejected the offer of alternative prayer sites as an odd irrelevancy, since they can pray anywhere they like anyway, and that wasn't the point. The High Court ruled we have a right to pray at the Wall. Alternative sites are irrelevant since we could pray anywhere anyway without a court ruling, said Hoffman. We want to pray at the Wall. This is possible if we are allocated a corper and a time to do so. We dress modestly and pray in the Orthodox manner so we're not b cause a provocation." Hoffman said "there is no halachic ruling forbidding women from wearing a tallit. It's my right to pray out loud and sing at the Wall, just as the

men do. "The haredim have no monopoly on the Western Wall, and it is unthinkable to let haredi thugs and hoodlums dictate rules of prayer by violent means." She said that in the past six years the women have been praying at the Wall and singing loudly, no one seemed bothered by it.

The day after the incident, the Knesset Committee for the Status of Women, headed by MK Yael Dayan, faced a torrent of haredi abuse, curses and vilifications when it visited the women's section of the Wall to investigate the women's difficulties and seek a solution. Among those screaming at the parliamentary committee was none other than a government. deputy minister, Yigal Bibi of the National Religious Party. While Dayan was trying to speak to the press, Bibi yelled: "You have no rights. You have no rights here!"

Another deputy of the religious affairs minister, Aryeh Gamliel of Shas, said the women's act was provocation and that in law anyone holding a religious ceremony at



No one heard a peep from Limor Livnat after this week's Women of the Wall incident.

the Wall which hurts others' feel ings is liable to a year in prison."
Some MKs wondered where were those stalwart champions of women's rights Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Likud MK Naomi Blumenthal. At least they used to be women's champions up to the elections, since when they have vanished. Their voices were two, at least, that were not heard at the Wall. Neither did they utter a peep when Dayan was attacked with boiling tea on an official Knesset visit to Hebron two weeks ago.

LABORED BREATHING

It's not just the silence of the lady lambs. Even more MKs were asking where has the Labor Party vanished as national morale sinks to an all-time low. A public-opinion poll conducted by Panorama Marketing this week revealed the nation to be suffering from collective depression. Some 60 percent fear war will break out; 60 percent fear for the very future of the state; and 70 percent feel they are living in an atmosphere of depression or

Well, if you must know, Labor is girding itself for battle. No, not to win public opinion or defeat a particularly pathetic government. Labor is getting ready to do battle with itself - like a famous sketch of John Cleese climbing into a ring to wrestle with and defeat himself. be next party leader, is eager to have the leadership showdown as soon as possible, preferably before the party convention next spring or at the same time. But party chairman Shimon Peres and MKs Haim Ramon, Ephraim Sneh and Uzi Baram want the convention held before primaries. In fact, they're not sure they want primaries at all in the next couple of years. Sneh, Ramon and Baram are also potential candidates for the No. I Labor slot, though only Sneh

has publicly said so. Barak, the war hero and former chief of staff, will be facing his first major party tussle at the central committee meeting due at the end of the month. Peres may have never won a national election, say his supporters, but he has never lost a battle in the central committee. But Barak's supporters point out that Peres has ruled himself out of another leadership race and, since party bosses and activists are politically pragmatic, they won't be aligning themselves with the leader of the past against a leader

of the future. hotel. They agreed to be "flexible" convention.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- **ACROSS** 1 Bounty from north, happily distributed (12) 9 Soldiers, with prospect of new life, make free (7)
- 10 Table displaying dish tipped with gold (7) 11 Solid business (4) 12 Gold sovereign? (5)
- 13 Sawyer's mate, fellow opening pub (4)
- 16 Huge chaps, semi-trained outside (7) 17 Pride of one in best suit,
- going to hospital? (7)
 18 Time's up, in a way, for catalyst (7) 21 Sitting-bower? (7) 23 Look left twice and lean
- against lamp-post, perhaps (4) 24 Father confess and make
- 25 Blackleg, a disease of sheep? (4) 28 Bizarre shrub from
- nursery that inspired Infanta's visit? (3-4) 29 Brown coal left to catch fire
- 30 Prevent strife dungeon-the silence follows (4,3,5)

- DOWN . I Most of tablet horrible for the crusader (7)
- 2 Outbreak of rain in the country (4)
- 4 On a sailing-ship salute takes an afternoon? (7)

- 3 Fish and beer-the better half? (7)
- 5 Buck up and bring up (4)

21 Primrose from Hereford's border? (7) 22 Be disposed to tip? (7) 26 Some serve up gin (4)

27 Silver-headed painter of Indian city (4) SOLUTIONS

6 Fee for umpire turning out to begin match? (7)

7 Dealing with Cook,

8 But nettlerash can break out and cause a reversal!

14 Uses needles to make one

15 Football team's bad player

19 Head allowed in to see

20 Shrill cry, finding rock

fragments by church (7)

row upside down (5)

(but not at home) (5)

range of colours (7)

perhaps, to provide a

refuge for pedestrians (7,6)

FILEWIIS

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: I Question, 7 Thyme, 8 Avalanche, 9 Bot, 19 Togs, 11 Alaska, 13 Vulgar, 14 Crabby, 17 Reason, 18 Boom, 20 Use, 22 Setaminet, 25 Usnai, 24 Cas DOWN: 1 Quart, 2 Evangel, 3 Teak, 4 Occult, 5 Hydra, 6 Destiny, 7 Tessera, 12 Caramel, 13 Vacuous, 15 Brownie, 16 Contra, 17 Remus,

QUICK CROSSWORD

- **ACROSS** Distance down (5) 4 Better ventilated
- 9 Characteristic (7) 10 Defect, flaw (5) 11 Ready money (4)
- 12 Against (7) 13 Tibetan ox (3) 14 Threesome (4) 16 Per head (4) 18 Sailor (3) 20 Delete (7) 21 Healthy and strong (4) 24 Motif (5) 25 Apostate (7) 26 Fake (6)
- DOWN 1 Disengage, separate (6) 2 Famous diarist (5) 3 German wine (4) 5 Trespasser (8) 6 Stupid (7)
- 7 Answer (6) 8 Courage (5) 13 Least advanced in age (8) 15 Keep under control (7)
- 17 Mild. compassionate (6) 18 Irritable (5) 19 Edict (6) 22 Change (5)
- 30 Rehov Aza, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-5671824

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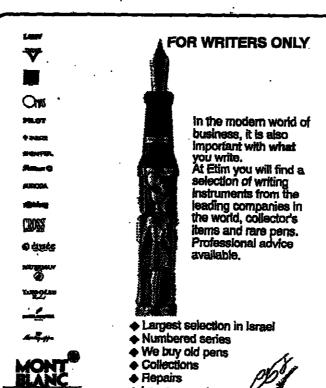
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· 神事實

MK Ehud Barak, the favorite to

Barak convened his camp leaders - MKs Avraham Shohat, Micha Goldman, Yossi Katz and Ra'anan Cohen – one night in a Jerusalem on the date of the leadership contest, as long as it is held no later than June 3, a few weeks after the

Government: Share of 'poor' families in population down

THE proportion of poor families in the general population declined for the first time in six years, according to the goverument's definition of poverty. It dropped to 16.8 percent in 1995 from 18% the previous year, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday.

In real terms, however, last year's figures - 208,000 families - are higher - by 3,000 - than they were in 1994. The total number of "poor" individuals stood last year at 738,000 people, of whom 329,000 were children. Yishai said he preferred not to bask in the relative decline, noting that the figures were still high.

There is no reason for celebration here," he said. The government's findings are based on a survey conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The study also Jerusalem Post staff

included, for the first time, Arab settlements of at least 2,000 inhabitants.

The sharpest decline in poverty was detected among single-parent families, from 36.8% to 25.7%. Among new immigrants, poverty declined last year by 2%, while the percent of non-Jewish families which were poor declined from 38.5% to 31.2%.

The survey also showed that Israel's poorest crities are Buei Brak, Jerusalem and Beersheba.

Labor and Meretz politicians interpreted the report's findings as vindication that the previous government's policy of handsomely financing an expanded social safety-net was

"The report proves that the Labor government's socioeco-nomic policies were correct and wise, since they resulted in a reduction of Israel's poverty rate," Labor party secretaryeneral Nissim Zvili said.

Meretz faction chairman Haim Oron said the report should be seen "as a badge of honor" for the previous government. In contrast, he said, the current government's budget-cut plans threaten to offset much of its predecessors' social achievements, since they include reduced welfare services and children's allowances.

"The report indicates clearly that budget transfers, the national-health law and Israel's progressive taxation system were the main reasons for the improvement in the poor's financial situation, according to Oron.

Amoriel displays a diamond necklace made by Chaumet in 1935 and valued at \$225,000 to \$280,000, and a sapphire and diamond bow brooch valued at \$400,000 to \$500,000, during a presentation in Lausanne yesterday. They will be anctioned off by

Draft indictment: Ofer

THE Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office has reportedly completed a draft charge sheet against busi-nessman Yuli Ofer on suspicion that he illegally bought information regarding United Mizrahi Bank's taxation condition from a when the bank, Israel's fourth

The alleged suspicions were first brought to light shortly after the Ofer-Wertheim consortium submitted a bid to gain the con-trolling interest in the bank. As a result, the Bank of Israel's supervisor of banks held up the sale

INVITATION TO SUBMIT OFFERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TERRACED HOUSE

Offers are invited for the purchase of the title of a terraced house in the "Rosemarine" project situated In Medinat Hayehudim Street, corner of Yehoshua Ben Nun, In Herziiya Pituach.

The registered area of the house is 272.47 sq.m. The house is registered in the Land Registry under Parcel 383/16, Block 6517 (hereinafter "the Property").

The property can be viewed by arrangement with Mr. Yossi Henzion at the telephone mentioned below.

A draft of the purchase agreement (hereinafter; "the Purchase Agreement"), which the bidder will be required to sign may be obtained from the office of Bruchstein, Weiner, Biro, Wertheim & Co., of 75 Nachlaf Benyamin St., Tel Aviv.

Offers should be submitted to the undersigned together with an unconditional financial bank guarantee in tartour of the undersigned for 10% of the amount offered to be in effect for a period of 3 months from the date of the offer, linked to the rate of the United States Dollar. Offers should be submitted within 20 days of the date of the advertisement of this notice by wey of presenting a signed purchase agreement by the offeror, with the amount of the price as contained in the bid form only after receiving the prior approval of the Chief Execution Officer in Kfar Sabe.

The undersigned does not undertake to accept the highest offer or

The undersigned reserves the right to carry on negotiations at any stage with all the offerers jointly or with one or more of them separately and to surface the property between the competing offerors, the undersigned may advertise additional invitations for offers to purchase the property.

The sale is subject to the approval of the Chief Execution officer

An offeror who withdraws his offer will forfelt his guarantee as acreed compensation.

Shlomo Z. Werthelm, Adv., Receiver. Bruchstein, Weiner, Biro and Wertheim & Co., Advocates 75 Nachlat Benyamin St., Tel Aviv. Tel: 03-5609455

Sotheby's in Geneva on Wednesday. Super-Sol profits up 20%

THE Super-Sol supermarket chain ended the third quarter of 1996 with a net profit of NIS 28.6m. compared with a net profit of NIS 23.13m. in the same period last year. In the first nine months of the year net profits rose to NIS 73.7m. compared with NIS 60.8m. At the end of the reported period, the Petah Tikva-based supermarket chain had 70 stores and seven chains.

Agan, the Ashdod-based chemical producer, reported a 45 percent growth in net profits for the third quarter of 1996, to NIS 12.9 million compared with NIS 8.9m. in the corresponding period last year.

Net profits in the first nine months of the year rose to NIS 67.6m. compared with NIS 62.6m. The third quarter results include the inclusion of new subsidiaries in Brazil, Spain and Argentina.

Agan management said it intends to increase its activities in South America over the next few years. Sales in the third quarter grew to NIS 178.1m. compared with NIS 134.8m. in the same period last year. In the nine-month period sales rose 16.7% to NIS 629.2m.

Kitan, the troubled textiles producer, posted a net loss of NIS 8.8m. in the third quarter of the year compared with a net profit of NIS 13.6m. in the corresponding period last year. The losses were mainly due to a drop in earnings as well as expenses of NIS 19m. resulting from the closure of its Beit She'an textile finishing division.

In the reported period, revenues grew 19% to NIS 206m. The rise was due to the merger of Gibor Sabrina's results with that of Kitan's. Kitan purchased controlling interest in Gibor in July.

plans 'cybercafes'

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Apple Computer Inc. has announced what it hopes will be a chain of restaurants where customers can rove the Internet and play video games while sipping cappuccino.
Plans for the Los Angeles Apple Cafe were unveiled Tuesday at a reception at the Museum of Television and Radio in Beverly Hills. No site has been chosen for the cafe, expected to open next

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BITS AND BYTES

Bird Foundation approves two projects: The Trilateral Industrial Development fund of the Israel-US Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation, designed to help US, Israeli and Jordanian businesses initiate joint ventures, has selected two projects for investments totalling \$600,000 to \$1 million. Computer & Communication systems (Jordan), Learning Labs (US) and Degem/Edusoft (Israel) will take part in one venture and Technology Group Affiliated (Jordan). Caere (US), and Shorut Probabilistic Solutions (Israel) will participate in the other.

Evergreen to host high-tech conference: Israel's Evergreen and American Investment bank Robertson Stevens will host a conference on the international financial markets' influence relationship to Israel's high-tech industry on November 18-19. For more information, call (03) 696-6262.

Indigo introduces new press server: Indigo of the Netherlands (Nasdaq: INDGF) recently announced that it will soon release Electronics for Imaging, a new Fiery color server for the Indigo E-Print 1000+ Digital Offset Color press. Indigo claims that the linkage between the two accelerates the production of multi-page printed products, allowing for the printing of 2,000 letter-size four-color

Lucent Technologies to expand Egypt's telecom network: Lucent Technologies Inc. (NYSE: LU) recently announced that it has agreed to help the Egypt National Telecommunications Organizations to expand Egypt's telecommunications network. Lucent, a New Jerseybased company, said they will add five million lines in five years.

NICE Systems introduces new products: Tel Aviv-based NICE Systems Ltd. (Nasdaq: NICEY) has announced the introduction of NiceFax, a complete fax management system that enables organizations to log and retrieve all of a company's faxes, and NiceLog Version 6.0, a digital recording system that archives telephone con-

VocalTec, Cisco, Dialogic band together: VocalTec recently announced a newly formed cooperative coalition of Internet, relephony, hardware, software and networking industry leaders which intends to create a set of standards for the compatibility of Internet telephony products. Along with VocalTec (Nasdaq: VOCLF), the American Cisco Systems (Nasdaq: CSCO) and Dialogic Corp. (Nasdaq: DLGC) will be among the participants in the Voice Over IP

Correction: Green Computers is offering a free package of com-puter accessories and software worth NIS 2,000 with the purchase of any of the company's new line of computers.

OPEC '95 oil export value up at \$132b.

LONDON (Reuter) - The value of Secretariat said. OPEC oil exports in 1995 rose to \$132 billion from \$120b. in 1994. OPEC said yesterday.

But the organization ended the year with an estimated current account deficit of \$6b., compared with a 1994 deficit of \$5.4b., the Vienna-based Secretariat said in its Annual Statistical Bulletin.

The bulletin showed that only four of the 11 members of the reanization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ended the year in the black - Iran, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Venezuela. Of the countries in deficit, Indonesia was the most affected at \$7.5b. followed by Saudi Arabia at \$5.4b.

The revenue increase was achieved thanks to higher oil prices and despite a slight fall in crude oil output to 24.6 million barrels per day (bpd) from 24.61 OPEC bases its production lev-

els on figures provided by the 11 members themselves. But independent sources say OPEC output is currently running at about 26 million bpd, well above its selfassigned 25.03 million bpd ceiling.

The Secretariat said OPEC's crude oil exports in 1995 edged up to 18.08 million bpd from 18.02 million in 1994 with Venezuela bod increase. However, growing production from rival producers meant that OPEC's export market share actually fell to 56.4 percent from 57.6% in 1994.

OPEC ended 1995 with 76.3% of the world's proven crude oil reserves, unchanged from the year before despite an increase of 7.5 billion barrels. The world's proven crude oil reserves at end-1995 stood at 1.03 trillion barrels of which million bpd the year before, the OPEC held 785 billion, OPEC said.

Olivetti denies Garuzzo's PC sale comments

MILAN (Reuter) – Italy's information technology group Olivetti denied yesterday that its vice chairman Giorgio Garuzzo had made any comments regarding the planned sale of Olivetti's personal computer company.

Milan financial daily Il Sole 24 Ore quoted Garuzzo saying the group "had received a better offer" for its PC company, after the paper said talks between Olivetti and corporate debt specialist Klesch & Co and US financier Bennet Lebow had been frozen.

But an Olivetti spokesman said, "No press agency or press organization, including Il Sole 24 Ore, has ever got in touch with nor collected any statement from Mr. Garuzzo concerning on-going negotiations of the Olivetti group, including the one regarding Olivetti PCs."

Olivetti hopes to sell its loss-making PC company by the end of this year, but the group has consistently declined to make any comments on any potential talks with any prospective buyers until a deal is completed. No names, no comment until the deal is done," the Olivetti

SEATE MONEY MARKETS Currency (deposit for:) 3 MONTHS U.S. dotler (\$250,000) 4.750 Pound sterling (\$100,000) 3.875 German merk (DM 200,000) 1.825 Swiss franc (SF 200,000) 0.825 Yen (10 million yen) 12 MONTHS 5.375 4.250 2.125 4.000 1.625 1.000 Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.11.96) **CHECKS AND** TRANSFERS BANKNOTES Sell 3.6712 3.25049 2.16494 2.16494 2.9271 1.9303 2.5589 0.5163 0.5641 0.7185 2.5690 1.0508 3.0786 2.1496 4.7700 0.8600 Sell Buy 3.6129 3.2086 2.1306 5.3032 2.8806 1.8986 2.5281 0.4894 0.5081 0.5051 0.7070 2.4052 2.5282 2.5282 3,6415 3,2340 2,1473 5,3432 0,6352 2,9034 1,9148 2,5515 0,4889 0,5684 0,7127 Currency be U.S. dollar 3.51 2.20 5.47 0.65 2.97 1.96 2.61 0.50 0.58 0.73 2.46 1.07 3.12 2.17 0.99 German mark Pound sterling French franc Swiss franc Swedish krona Norwegien krone Danish krone 2.4247 2.5482 0.8814 S. African rand eigian franc (10) 1.0341 3.0277 2.1154 4.4600 0.9100 4.0799 5.3167 1.0419 3.0511 2.1328 4.5589 0.9945 4.1148 5.3555 4.1458 5.4025

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

received UMB data illegally GALIT LIPKIS BECK

former Globes journalist in 1994, largest, was tendered out for private bidders.

until the case was reviewed. The Bank of Israel found that

the information economic journal-ist Doron Rosensweig sold did not provide Ofer with an advantage over the competition in the sales process. The bank was sold to the Ofer-Wertheim group at the end of November, 1994.

After the sale, the State Attorney's Office continued to investigate whether the purchase of the information was legal. About three months ago, the District Attorney's Office decided to charge Ofer, a business source

The District Attorney's Office also intends to file a charge against Rosensweig for selling stolen confidential documents.

"The District Attorney's Office is still handling the files," a spokesperson for the Justice

Ministry said yesterday. The Ha'aretz daily reported yesterday that the draft charge sheet alleges that Rosensweig received confidential bank documents stolen by one of the bank's employees.

Ha' aretz reported that the documents were made up of two booklets. The first included computer printouts from August 18, 1991, of information taken from Mizrahi's accounting division and intended for internal bank decisions. The documents included names of customers and their financial situation. The second booklet contained information and documents on Mizrahi subsidiary, the Mizrahi Trust compa-

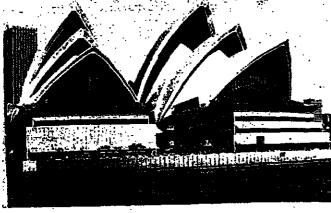
The draft charge sheet, according to Ha'aretz, says that Rosensweig sold the documents to Ofer for \$15,000 on October 4, 1994, two days before the deadline to submit bids to participate in the tender for the purchase of Bank Mizrahi. Rosensweig told Ofer that the information included in the documents would help him decide whether to purchase the

bank and at what price. The District Attorney's Office claims both Rosensweig and Ofer knew the documents were stolen, Ha' aretz reported.

A spokesperson for Ofer said, "We refuse to comment on the

Ofer, whose interests range from shipping to real estate and industry, is a major shareholder in several public companies including Kvalim, Melisron, Ofer Brothers, Coral Beach and Magor.

DISCOVERY STUDY TOURS Come view the wonders



Conceived by the Australian and New Zealand Colleges for Seniors, this exciting, 21 day, English speaking tour highlights the individuality and uniqueness of both countries. The visit, Feb. 3-25, takes in the main attractions, and includes university lectures on each country's history, culture, sociology, art and politics, and enable participants to meet and hear from members of the local Jewish communities.

The round-the-world, El Al/Qantas ticket gives you 2 nights in Bangkok, and a flight to the United States, before returning to Israel. The price includes all international flights, internal travel, English speaking guides and escort, all entrance fees, full board (kosher and vegetarian food available) in Australia and New Zealand, and breaktasts in Bangkok. No travel on Shabbat, which will be spent within walking distance of a synagogue.

US\$5,985 per person, sharing a double room.

For reservations and more information, please contact Debbie Zuberi, 02-534 5191 or Jo-Anne Greenblatt, 02-534 2079. Organized by ZIONTOURS, 19 Hillel St., Jerusalem Tel. 02-625 4326/7, Fax. 02-625 5329. E-mail: markzion@netvision.net.il

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Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds 34 Ben Yehuda St... Jerusalem, Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826 Fax. 02-244876

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Shares rise in anticipation of Hebron agreement

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

DANIELLA GLUCK



+0.57%

Two-Sided index

SHARES rose yesterday amid growing confidence that an agreement soon would be reached on redeployment in Hebron.

The Maof Index climbed 0.57 percent to close at 204.91, while the Two-Sided Index added 0.68% to 195.37. Across the Tel Aviv Stock

Exchange \$22.1 million of shares traded, compared to a daily average during the past two weeks of \$16m. to \$17m. "It's up today, mostly because

everyone is expecting something on Hebron very, very fast now," said Mark Meiras, an analyst at

Shares in Supersol Ltd. closed 1.75% higher at an all-time high of NIS 75.99 after the company announced a 50% rise in thirdquarter earnings. Shares in IDB Holding Corp. rose 3.3% to close at NIS 12.02 on unconfirmed reports of a takeover bid, Meiras said.

Among the day's losers was Bank Hapoalim Ltd., which closed 1.32% lower at NIS 4.49 as local investors sold the stock after concentrate its efforts on the sale

Dollar floats up on raft of positive comment

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - The dollar firmed against the mark in Europe yesterday after a raft of comments from German, US and Japanese officials that they were comfortable with a strengthening US cur-

On the European bourses, leading shares in London and Paris fell back from opening highs and closed flat. Frankfurt was the exception, ending late electronic trading at a record high after Wall Street moved up again after its sixth consecutive record close overnight.

Bundesbank president Hans Tietmeyer was the latest to add his voice to an international chorus of dollar-friendly comments welcoming the the US currency's recent rally and saying he "would not mind if it were to go a little

Earlier, Japan's "Mr. Yen" senior finance ministry official Eisuke Sakakibara, welcomed a rising dollar and US Treasury Under-secretary Jeffrey Shafer

said on Wednesday the policy of the new Clinton administration still favored dollar strength. "It's a concerted effort. I don't

quite know why they need to talk the dollar up here, but they're certainly doing a successful job," said Alan Collins, head of technical analysis at Merita Bank in London.

The dollar pushed to a session high of 1.5117 marks and settled at 1.5095 by 1645 GMT, up from late Wednesday's European level of 1.5041.

But dollar/yen went the other way, dropping to a session low of 111.20. Traders said it was depressed by cross rate trading between the mark and the yen, in which the Japanese currency slipped below key support at 73.85 to the mark,

US data issued yesterday painted an inflation-benign picture, which analysts said backed the Federal Open Market Committee's decision on Wednesday to leave US rates on hold.

Due to technical difficulties, the Wall Street Report was unavailable last night.

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YEN	1.3477/95	0.5374/82	•	1.1364/83	4.5547/97		
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FFr	0.2959/61	0.1180/80	21.92/97	24.9450/95	•		
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FINAL HOURS

(Continued from Page 1) But the presence of the digni-taries relieves the tension. They bring out the onlookers, both Palestinian and Israeli. Everybody looks, gazes, chats; but they aren't looking, gazing, and chatting at one another. Hebron is receiving attention

like it rarely has in the past. When the city was first taken over by Israel in 1967, people used to go to the cave to see it, get married in its shadows. The same is happening now, though more bar mitzvas than weddings. In 1967, people went to come say hello to the sites, now they seem to be bidding them farewell.

Amon is asked again and again,

by news crews from everywhere by news crews from everywhere from Japan to Lebanon, what will be tomorrow. But that isn't the real question. Tomorrow things will be the same, because tomorrow all the attention will still be on Hebron. Tomorrow will likely be anticlimatic instance. be anticlimactic, just a continua-

tion of today.

The real question is what will be in two months. Because then the attention will be over, then MKs will no longer come, then the photographers will have given up the rooms they rented in the city for a couple of weeks.

In two months, the outsiders

will have left, and those on the inside will begin grappling with each other.

HOT PURSUIT

(Continued from Page 1) demand that Israel establish deadlines for implementation of future withdrawals specified in the Oslo 2 agreement and establish stages for discussion of permanent settlement issues.

The sources expressed optimism that these matters would be resolved in a few hours of talks, but backtracked after talks made little progress. In Gaza, Arafat said earlier to

reporters; "I am sorry we didn't make progress. They are still insisting on points we cannot accept. I am not optimistic."

Over several weeks, Israel has backed down on its demands for freedom of action by its forces in H1 and an IDF presence on hills overlooking the Jewish quarter. The Palestinians accept no IDF entry into H1 except in joint mobile units.

This may be what prompted settiers to say that the agreement shaping up is worse than the agreement made by the Labor government, which allowed for unspecified "engagement" in H1 when necessary prior to informing the Palestinian Police.

In light of the September riots, a 300-meter no-arms buffer zone around much of H2, the Israeli-

controlled enclave, will provide security from rogue Palestinian policemen who might think of firing at settlers or IDF troops, but it might also prevent PA Police from intercepting terrorists who come to reside in the area.

The original demand for an IDF post on hills, such as Jabal Sneineh, overlooking the Old City was abandoned, but the question of whether Palestinian Police can carry rifles on these hills "has been resolved," the Palestinian sources said. The quarter is in any case out of rifle

While Israel cannot ensure that PA Police carry only pistols on the hilltops as demanded, it has been assured that Palestinian Police stations, full of arms, will be kept at least a kilometer from the Jewish quarter.

The Palestinian sources thought that Israel had promised to allow Shuhadeh Street, the main road past Beit Hadassah, to gradually reopen to local Arab merchants and traffic. However, last night they said there was argument over the proposed Israeli wording -"subject to security considerations."

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

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REDEEMER CHURCH Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10:30

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP Service, Mt. Zion Fellowship, Fri., Sat., 7.30 p.m., Sun. 10.30 a.m., 7.30 p.m. Tel. 02-582-8964.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30

MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Services: Minha 4:25 p.m. Shaherit 8:30 a.m., Minha 3:40 p.m.. Daily Minyan

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN FELLOW-SHIP. Non-denom. Sat., 10:00 to noon. Near ACE/Shatayim exit-Haita Hwy. Call Karson 09-955-6494, Luke 09-954-2813. TEL AVIV-CHRISTIAN

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TION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikra, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Sat-urdsy 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-585245.

Immanuel Church (Lutheran), Tel Aviv-Yalo, 15 Beer Holman (near 17 Ellat Street). Tel. 03-6820654 Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

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ART GUIDE

JERUSALEM

Museums
OLD YESHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish community in the Old city, mid-19th century – World War II. 6 Or Hahalm, Jewish Quarter, Old City, Sun-Thur.

TEL AVIV

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ART GUIDE

HAIFA THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM. (Haña University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael • Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period • Illness and Healing in Ancient Times . Impressionism and the Jewish School of Paris. Open Sun, Mon., Wed., Thus. 10-4. Tue. 10-7. Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2 ADMISSION FREE.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Jerusalem: Jalfa Gate, 628-3898; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuatat,

Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa,

Tel Aviv: Bass, 68 Frishman, 523-7326;

Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Arim mall, Katznelson, Kfar Sava, 767-7908.

Netanya: Hanassi, 36 Welzmann,

Halfa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312.

Krayot area: Harman, 4 Sknitat Modfin, Kiryal Motzkin, 870-7770.

Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6

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Jpper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev Ha'ir

Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A. 3 Avigdori, 870-6560; (evening)

Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 673-1475; (day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shualat, Shualat Road,

816108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate

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3731. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat

Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730;

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Merkaz Golan, 198 Ahuza, Ra'anana,

Netanya: Hasharon Mall, Herzi, 617766. Halfa: Balfour, 1 Massada, 882-2289. Krayot aras: Super Pharm, Hakiryon, 44 Hapalman, Kiryat Bizlik, 877-9320.

Herzliya: Ciai Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6

melech, 695-0115.

Mall, 570-68, Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, November 16

Arlosoroff, 76 Arlosoroff, 523-0748.

EMERGENCY

PHARMACIES

Friday, November 15

Heroor's Gate, 628-2058.

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DUTY HOSPITALS

Ein Kerem (pediatrics); Bikur Hofim Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (Internal, surgery).

mya: Laniado, Saturday, November 16 Jerusalem: Bikur Holim (internal, ENT);

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Maskit (crv. Scierot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 10 a.m. to * 8551333 YOM Sava * 9902222 Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Wall, 570468. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Dan Region

Friday, November 15 n: Hadassah Mt. Scopus (Internal, obstetrics); Sheare Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology); Hadassah

Jerusaiem: sikur Hoam (insemai, EN I); Shaare Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics, pediatrics); Hadassah Ein Karem (ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pedietrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).

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* 9985444 Tiberlas Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ser vice in the area, around the clock. Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-

Eran - Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 56-10303, Tel Aviv 546-1111 (children/youth 696-1113), Haita 867-2222, Beersheba 649-4333, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 988-8770, Kfar Sava 974555. Hadera 346789.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jarusalem 625-5558, Haita 853-0533, Ellat 633-Emerciancy line for women in distres Sunday-Thursday 24 hrs. a day: Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 09-505720.

Amharic). Kupat Holim Information Center 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Center for Adolescents, 6 Chile St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jim. Advice by phone 02-543-3882.

ilem Municipal Health

851-4111, 03-545-1133 (also in Russ)

07-637-6310, 08-855-0506 (also in

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Mekorot workers hold one-day strike

Haifa Chemicals management, workers ordered to restore production levels

THE 3,000 employees of the Mekorot water company yesterday ended a brief lightning strike, which had threatened to disrupt water

supplies.
The decision to call off the strike, which began in the morning, followed a decision by the Tel Aviv Regional Labor Court last night temporarily banning management from implementing plans to change the structure of the

According to workers' committee officials. the court ruled that management had to adhere to all the terms of the collective labor accord.

The strike, backed by the Histadrut, was called to protest plans by the management and the National Infrastructure Ministry to split Mekorot into four separate divisions which would operate in different fields. One of them, dealing with development, would have enabled private firms to submit tenders for special pro-

DAVID RUDGE jects, varying from laying new pipes to treating

and purifying sewage. Management of the government-run company maintained that the proposals would make Mekorot more efficient and would improve

services to the public. The workers, however, opposed the plans, charging that they would lead to the break-up of a well-oiled and already efficient company and the dismissal of workers as well as harming the interests of consumers.

They also maintained that under the terms of the collective labor agreement no changes could be made in the company's structure with-

out the workers' consent. Meanwhile, in another dispute, the Haifa Regional Labor Court last night instructed management and striking employees of the giant Haifa Chemicals plant to return the factory to normal production levels.

The decision was handed down during a hearing into a petition by the Histadrut calling on management to rescind dismissal notices sent last month to 124 of the firm's 500 workers. The court issued a temporary injunction against the dismissals and called on the two sides to resume negotiations and brief the court on the outcome in two weeks'

Production at the Haifa Chemicals plant has been at a standstill since October 29 when management closed all manufacturing units following sanctions by workers.

The sanctions, later followed by an all-out strike, were in protest of management's decision to annul the collective labor agreement in order to implement staff cuts and other effi-

Debt-ridden Arab councils press government for bail out

HEADS of debt-ridden Arab councils yesterday decided on a series of protest measures - leading up to a general strike - to press the government to bail them out of their financial plight.

They intend to open the campaign with a demonstration outside the offices of the Treasury and the Interior Ministry in Jerusalem on Tuesday.

This is slated to be followed by a mass demonstration in the same place by the council heads and municipal employees from the 53 Arab towns and villages throughout the country.

"If the government ignores our demands, there will be a meeting of the monitoring committee [of the Arab leadership] to declare a general strike on December 5," Hussein

DAVID RUDGE

spokesman for the forum of Arab Council Heads. "On the same day we intend to bring 50,000 people to Jerusalem to stage a demonstration, if nothing is done by

The decisions were taken at a meeting of the forum at Shfaram, shortly before a visit to the municipality by Internal Security Affairs Minister Avigdor Kahalani.

Suleiman said that they raised the financial plight of the councils, which have altogether accumulated debts totalling more than NIS 430 million, with Kahalani.

"He said he understands the

problems and promised to raise the matter with the prime minister," said Suleiman.

So far, however, repeated requests by the forum for an urgent meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu have gone unanswered.

Suleiman said over 30 of the councils have been unable to pay the salaries of municipal employees - some of them for several months. "The situation is impossible," he said.

The council leaders are pressing for consolidation of the debt and a raise in regular and development budgets to bring them in line with those in the Jewish sector.

Daniel, 7, seeks family to call his own

DANIEL is a beautiful child. With his lithe body, large brown eyes, broad smile and golden-brown skin, it is easy to imagine him playing the happy child in a break-

fast-cereal commercial. But Daniel's life has been anything but happy. Born in Europe and brought here by adoptive parents who then decided they couldn't care for him, he lives in a temporary home run by the government adoption service.

Each day this seven-year-old hopes a new family will come and give him a real home. He has even drawn pictures of the family he hopes will someday love him. But time is running out for Daniel. If an adoptive family can't be found soon, he will have to be sent to an institution.

Daniel is one of about 30 youngsters throughout the country whom the adoption service considers "special-need children" because they are at least two years

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old and may have physical or mental handicaps. Children under six with no handicaps are easier to place, according to Nehama Tal, head of the adoption service (the Services for the Child in the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry). Once they are over six, however, it is hard to find them a home, even if

they are healthy, Tai says. The service has considered putting Daniel in a boarding school, but he is adamant that he doesn't want to be in an institution. Healthy and of normal intelligence, Daniel is able to articulate

what he wants: He wants a family. Though his pent-up anger over his painful early experiences often bursts forth, the staff that cares for Daniel finds him enchanting, and it's easy to see why. He is warm and open to affection; even with a total stranger he quickly moves close to show the photos in his

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directed by Robert Lederman

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Zamaret: Men, women prayed together at Nebi Samwil in 18th century HAIM SHAPIRO

SEPARATION of the sexes was more lax in past centuries than it is among Orthodox Jews today, according to Prof. Zvi Zameret, director of the Ben-Zvi Institute and head of the committee considering road clo-

sures on Shabbat. Zameret, speaking to a group of journalists visiting the instinct, cited an 18th century judicial ruling of the Moslem religious court in Jerusalem, which said that Jewish men and women prayed together at

Nebi Samwil, the tomb of the prophet Samuel, overlooking Jerusalem. The ruling is included in a book being published by the institute, Yehudim Beveit Hamishpat Hamuslemi (Jews in the Moslem Religious Court) by Prof. Amnon Cohen, together with Elisheva Simon-Pikali and

Zameret said the authors had searched through the records of the Moslem religious court, to find judgements relating to Jews. In some cases. Zameret added, the court, which had a special position under Ottoman rule, had been remarkably liberal toward the Jews.

However, in this case, the court had appealed to Sultan Ahmed III in 1735 to protest the practices of Jews at Nebi Samwil. The Moslem religious leaders of Jerusalem wrote that the Jews had neferious practices, including the mixing of men and women at the shrine and the drinking of wine.

.The appeal had come after the sultan had first banned Jews from the shrine in 1709 and then allowed them to visit it in 1722.

NEWS IN BRIEF

State appeals sentences of Amirs, Adani The state appealed the sentences of Yigal and Haggai Amir and Dror Adam to the Supreme Court yesterday. The three were. sentenced by the Tel Aviv District Court to five, 12, and seven years respectively, for crimes including conspiring to commit terror attacks against Arabs, conspiring to murder prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, and weapons offenses. The state had requested the maximum sentences of 39, 78, and 29 years respectively. Evelyn Gordon

Students raising funds for Zaire's children The Tel Aviv University Student Union is collecting donations to help children in Zaire. Donors can make contributions directly into the account - number 188778 - the union opened at Discount.

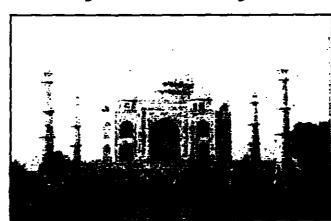
4 boys held for alleged rape

Four 16-year-olds suspected of raping two girls at their boarding school in the center of the country were remanded for five days yesterday by Tel Aviv Juvenile Court.

The boys allegedly attacked the girls, whom they know, late Wednesday night. The girls, aged 15 and 16, needed medical attention after the incident and were brought to Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv. The boys were arrested immediately after the attack. Itim

INDIA

January 16 - February 6, 1997



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Monday A DAYLIKE NO OTHER

Israel is not associated with heavy industry, and yet... This tour will visit the Haifa Bay, including the Oil Refineries, the Haifa Electric Power Station, the shipyards, workshops and navy base, plus a boat tour of the bay. We bet you've never seen this part of

NIS 190 (including lunch) Tour guide: Dr Yoash Zolar

Tuesday

RETURN TO BEIT SHEAN

Thousands of years of history - Greek, Roman, Pagan, Thousands of years of history - Greek, Roman, Pagan, Jewish - now revealed for all to see. Theaters, temples, bath-houses, markets, frescues, houses of ill-repute. All the beauty and cruelty that paganism offered. Even if you've been before, come again, because so much more has now been revealed, including the Mona Lisa, in one of the world's most successful digs.

NIS 180 (including lunch)
Tour guide: Israel Shalem

Thursday THE HILLS OF JUDEA

In the region settled by the tribe of Judah, the moshavim and kibbutzim still retain their rustic stunosphere. We'll visit Mitspe Masu'ah, Beit Jamal monastery, the Avahalom cave of stalagmites and their stalagmites are stalagmites. stalactites, the Pilots' memorial and more. Come and immerse yourself in the history of both Judaism and Christianity. NIS 185 (including lunch) Tour guide: Carol-Arme Bernheim

ON THE TRAIL OF BAR KOCHBA

With the support of Rabbi Akiva, Bar Kochba built an army and rebelled against the Romans. After three years of battles, during which time the population built an enormous underground system, the revolt was put down and Jewish nettlement in Judea was destroyed. We'll visit the Amazia and Hazan caves (an underground city), the huge complex of Beit Guvrin, Jerusalem's Shrine of the Book which contains the letters of Bar Kochba found in the Judean Desert etc. NIS 195 (including lunch) Tour guide: Carol-Anne Bernheim

The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Lunch as indicated, 10% off when you book all four tours. Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.

Reservations and further information:

SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074. Tel 02-5666231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.) Ask for Romit, Tami or Varda.

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Appendix Links of the

Caminiti unanimous NL MVP Maccabi comeback

w YORK (Reuter) - San go Padres third baseman Ken niniti, who helped lead his n to its first division title in 12 s, became the fourth unanichoice as National League Valuable Player on

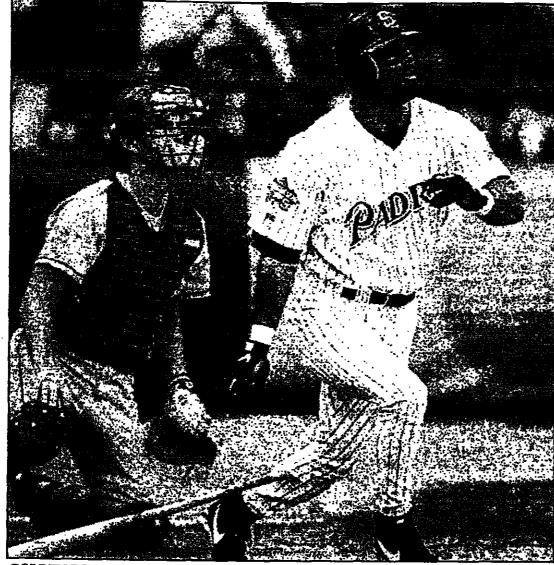
initi was voted first on all dlots from a panel of memof the Baseball Writers ation of America.

ever considered myself on vel before. To be in such an crowd is a great honor," niti said. "I did my job to the of my ability this year and I rewarded for it."

aminiti, who led the charge at put the Padres over the top in " National League West, hit 326 on and posted club records with 40 omers and 130 runs batted in. He as third in the National League a RBI, tied for fifth in homers and ixth m batting.

The 33-year-old Caminiti is the eighth third baseman to win the award and the first-ever Padre. San Diego's Bruce Bochy won the National League Manager of the Year award last week

Los Angeles Dodgers catcher Mike Piazza (237 points) and Colorado Rockies outfielder Ellis Burks (186) were second and Voting for the 1896 National League MVP Award, with first-, second- and third-place votes and total points based on a 14-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis:



GOLDEN BOY - Ken Caminiti hit 40 homers this season.

third, and were the only others named on all 28 ballots. Fourteen points are given for first place, nine for second, eight for third and down to one for 10th.

Piazza was the Dodgers' offensive focal point, batting 336 with 36 homers and 105 RBL. He was third in the league in hitting, tied and a .639 slugging percentage, for ninth in homers and 16th in finished in the top five in batting

RBI for a team that hit just .252, but still made the postseason. Burks, who stayed healthy for the first time since joining Colorado in 1994, exploded for 40 homers and 128 RBI with a .344 batting average. He also topped the league with 142 runs scored

average (second), doubles (second), RBI (fifth), homers (tied for fifth) and triples (tied for fifth).

Caminiti joined Jeff Bagwell of the Houston Astros (1994), Mike Schmidt of the Philadelphia Phillies (1980) and Orlando Cepeda of the St. Louis Cardinals (1967) as the only other unanimous National League MVPs.

vs. CSKA falls short

THE real Maccabi Tel Aviv finally stood up last night vs. CSKA Moscow, but too late as their valiant comeback from a 20-point first-half deficit ended in a frustrating 89-80 road loss to the Russians.

The defeat dropped Maccabi to 3-4 in Euroleague play, severely hurting the team's chances of finishing in any of the top three places in Group A, meaning the club will face a hard road ahead, likely bracketed with Europe's elite in the groupings for further

Euroleague play.

Maccabi continued its Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde routine - like the little girl in the nursery rhyme, when they were good they were very. very good, but when they were bad they were horrid.

In fact, horrid doesn't begin to describe the awful first half offensive display that got Maccabi in trouble in the first place. With a shooting percentage lower than
the Dead Sea – plagued largely by
the off-form, injured Oded Karash
– Scherf's club watched as
CSKA's two Sergueis, Bazarevich
and Panov, and foreigner Marcus Webb led the rout.

Maccabi still had an early 13-12, thanks largely to a rejuvenated Randy White, before the Russians unleashed a 16-2 run that was exactly that: lots of CSKA uniforms flying down the court after repeated Maccabi misses. Not until Constantin Popa hit a hookshot did the Maccabi dry spell end, and by then it was already 33-18. The lead ballooned to 40-20 before some foul shots by Borko Radovic got Maccabi to within 42-

The opening of the second half did not foreshadow the drama ahead: Webb, who dominated the backboards for CSKA, took a pass from Igor Koudelin for a dunk and

Los Angeles forward Cedric

Ceballos tore the patella tendon in

his right knee when he landed

awkwardly after a 2-on-1 drive to

the basket late in the fourth quar-

ter. He was taken off the court on

a stretcher and the Lakers said he

Celtics 103, Hawks 85

points in Boston's 41-point first

easy victory over visiting Atlanta.

scored 13 points on three 3-point-

ers and two field goals to lead the Celtics to a 41-22 lead at the end

David Wesley added 16 for the Celtics, who had lost their last six

games against the Hawks.

5:09 left in the first quarter and

Barros came off the bench with

quarter and the Celtics had an

Dana Barros scored 13 of his 18

would be examined.

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

CSKA's lead was back to 18, 46-28. But then it happened: tighter defense and better shot selection helped Maccabi mount a rally, and basket by Radovic - who played a key part in the comeback but forced too many shots - and one by Nadav Henefeld brought Maccabi within striking distance at 52-41. But no sooner had they rallied then Maccabi faltered again, as a three-pointer by Bazarevich keyed a 10-2 CSKA spurt that made it 62-43 with just under 12 minutes left.

That's when Scherf finally pulled the plug on the injured Katash, sending him to the bench and inserting Doron Sheffer into the line-up, with immediate results. Sheffer ran the offense smoothly, and Maccabi's moribund outside game suddenly sprang to life as Henefeld, Sheffer and White buried three-pointers to suddenly cut the lead to 64-54.

Radovic scored some quick baskets and then White jammed one home off a steal as Maccabi's defense swarmed all over CSKA, leading to fast break after fast break. When Buck Johnson hit two foul shots moments later, the scoreboard showed the score tied at 68-68, even though it should have read only 68-66, for CSKA. Unfortunately, the extra two points Maccabi was given never made a difference in the out-

Having fought back furiously, Maccabi's defense sadly wilted down the stretch. Panov was left open for a three-pointer, and twice Koudelin - who hit the winning three-pointer to beat Maccabi at Yad Eliahu - scored on drives, the second opening a 77-74 lead with 3:08 left. Valeri Daineko was perfect from the foul line down the

stretch, then hit a three to make it 82-74,

Meanwhile, Maccabi ironically had only White to rely on offensively. Even his late scoring proved unimportant so long as CSKA controlled the backboards down the stretch as the Maccabi comeback proved too little, too

White had a fantastic game, finishing with 33 points, but Maccabi's anemic offensive performance can be seen in the fact that the next highest scorer was Radovic with 12. Buck Johnson played White's role of disappointing big man this time, settling for just seven points.

Katash, who suffered his injury during Monday night's victory over Rishon Lezion where he scored 33 points, was way off that form, and scored just two points. Sheffer finished with a flourish, scoring seven in the second half and nine overall, but again, Maccabi offered little outside threat, except for the brief series of three-pointers in the second

Things don't get much better for Sherf & Co. - they face Hapoel Jerusalem in league play Sunday night at Yad Eliahu before heading off to Milan to play Stefanel Milan next Thursday night. While their second-half comeback earned them some needed respect, unless something unusual happens to their Group A opponents, the "hot" winter of Euroleague action Maccabi fans were promised in the preseason may have already turned very, very cold.

Ser.	OUT A		
	W	Ł	Pts.
Stelanel Milan	6	1	13
CSKA Moscow	4	3	11
Ulker	3	4	10
Maccabi Tel Aviv	3	4	10
Panionios	3	4	10
Limoges	2	5	9

Williams dealt to Indians in Giant trade

CLEVELAND (Reuter) - The Cleveland Indians, facing the possible free-agent defection of slugger Albert Belle, acquired star third baseman Matt Williams from the San Francisco Giants on Wednesday for three players.

The Giants received reliever Julian Tavarez and infielders Jose Vizcaino and Jeff Kent in the deal. Each team also included a player to be named later and Cleveland may add cash to complete the deal.

Williams was limited to 105 games by a shoulder injury in 1996, but still hit .302 with 22 homers and 85 runs batted in. His powerful bat could fill a void created by the potential departure of Belle, who rejected the Indians' offer of a reported \$41 million over five years on Tuesday.

Despite winning more games over the last two years than any other team, the Indians again showed

Kent and Vizcaino were acquired during the season from the New York Mets for All-Star Carlos Baerga and first baseman Eddie Murray was traded to the

"Matt Williams is arguably the best all-around third baseman in the game today," Indians executive vice president John Hare-said. "Mast Williams is a special player in that he can hit for average and power and is. an excellent fielding third baseman. He is a tremendous addition to our ballchub."

"It was an incredibly difficult decision to trade Matt Williams, one of the game's finest players and competitors," Giants senior vice president Brian Sabean said from the general managers' meetings in Phoenix.

ered, this deal makes the Giants a better team. It is

Baltimore Orioles.

"As hard of a decision as it was, all things considjust the beginning of our plans to turn the organiza- in 1988-89.

breeze along CHICAGO (AP) - Toni Kukoc Lakers, who were coming off an came off the bench to score 26 emotional double-overtime victory over the Houston Rockets the night before.

Unbeaten Bulls

points as the unbeaten Chicago Bulls maintained their mastery of the Miami Heat by winning 103-71 Wednesday.

. Michael Jordan scored 28 points despite missing 15 of 23 field goal attempts and Dennis Rodman grabbed 19 rebounds for the Bulls, who swept the Heat out of last season's playoffs and handed Miami its only two losses this year.

Including the postseason, Chicago is 33-5 against Miami since the Heat entered the NBA

The league's only undefeated team, Chicago (8-0) extended its franchise record best start. Spurs 95, Lakers 83

Dominique Wilkins scored 28 points to lead injury-depleted San Antonio to a surprising victory over the visiting Lakers.

Vernon Maxwell added 22 points, Avery Johnson 16 and Sean Elliott 14 for San Antonio, which recorded a season-high 95. points. The Spurs' previous best was 86 points on November 6 against the Washington Bullets. Shaquille O'Neal had 30 points

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS: Boston 183, Atlanta 25 Toronto 110, Philadelphia 98 Washington 106, New Jersey 91 Cleveland 81, Portland 70 Detroit 95, Denver 94, OT Chicago 103, Miami 71 San Autonio 95, L.A. Lakers 83 and Eddie Jones 22 for the EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

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Arsenal, Liverpool win League Cup replays

LONDON (Reuter) - Premier league Arsenal and Liverpool scored big wins in English League Cup third round replays on Wednesday.

Arsenal went a goal down at home to First Division Stoke but rallied to win 5-2.

England striker Robbie Fowler took his tally to eight goals in his last six games with two goals in Liverpool's 4-1 home victory over

First Division Charlton. But Premier League Coventry was knocked out at home to Second Division strugglers Gillingham, whose winner came from Neil Smith in the 71st

At Liverpool, England defender Mark Wright opened the scoring in the 14th minute, towering above everyone else in the penalty area to head home a corner from Norway's Stig Bjornebye. Jamie Redknapp made it 2-0 three minutes later but Shaun Newton volleyed Charlton back in the game within three minutes.

Fowler wrapped it up for

Liverpool with goals in the 48th

and 73rd minutes.

4 local players reach Jaffa satellite semis FOUR local tennis players, but

only two seeds, have reached the semifinal rounds of the second leg of the four-week satellite being played in Jaffa.

In the top half of the draw there will be a replay of last week's final between Eyal Erlich and Raviv Weidenfeld, first and third seeds respectively.

In the previous match, Erlich won in straight sets.

Yesterday, Erlich beat Morocco's Mehidi Tahiri 6-2, 6-3 and Weidenfeld battled against Lior Mor, winning 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, The other semifinal will be a tus-

sle between Noam Okun and Yoni Erlich, ranked 523 and 651 respectively in the world.

Okun beat qualifier Michael Kogan 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 and Erlich dismissed Martijn Verkerk from

Holland 6-2, 6-3. Play today begins at 1 pm with tomorrow's singles final at 10:30 Heather Chait

SCOREBOARD

NHL – Wednesday's results: Edmonton 4, Ottawa 0; Florida 5, Montreal 3; N.Y. Islanders 5, Vancouver 4 (OT); Philadelphia 2, N.Y. Rangers 1; Colorado 4, Detroit 1; Caigary 3, Dalias 3; Anaheim 3, Toronto 2.

Bet. Jerusalem hopes to knock Hap. PT from top of table **ORI LEWIS**

AN enthralling round of National League soccer action is in store this weekend as local action resumes following the week's break during which the national team lost embarrassingly to

Cyprus.

The two central fixtures of the ninth round of National League, action see leaders Hapoel Petah Tikva, who are still mbeaten, traveling to Teddy Stadium where they take on second-placed Betar

The pundits maintain that Petah Tikva's reign as leaders is only temporary. Not surprisingly, the Betar camp has something to say about the matter, and as the Jerusalemites are the only side capable of taking over the league leadership this week, it is not surprising that they feel that the young and relatively inexperienced Petah Tikvans will soon be overtaken.

Betar is unbeaten at home and will probably line up with Ronnen Harazi at the start, leaving Stefan Saloi on the bench.

Petah Tikva, for its part, has shown its mettle with wins in all four of its away fixtures leaving only a brave punter to predict the nutcome of this match. Reuven Atar was give the go-

head to play for Maccabi Haifa gainst Maccabi Tel Aviv this eckend after completing his love from Hapoel Haifa. It appears unlikely, however, at coach Giora Spiegel will utite Atar from the outset, leaving a ther lackluster Haifa outfit still ithout the sparkle which was ch a feature of their game up

until a season ago. Tel Aviv has itself not been so hot this-season and has really struggled to produce results, leaving its and its Haifa rivals with 14 points from eight matches, eight points off the pace.

The Tel Avivians will be missing two key players for the match at the National Stadium, Ramat Gan - Eli Driks is serving a two-match suspension after being sent off for the first time in his career two weeks ago, and Gadi Brumer will also be out of action as he recovers from a hairline fracture in his

The late match of tomorrow's fixtures pits Hapoel Tel Aviv in the Negev against Hapoel Beersheba. The resurgent Beersheba. Beershebans, who lie third in the standings, will be looking for their fourth consecutive win, and against the Tel Avivians, who are in very deep financial trouble again and desperately looking for buyer, not to mention a threematch losing streak, make things

look pretty rosy in the Negev. Maccabi Herzliya will go ont tomorrow with a new coach and hopes it can at last register a win. It has a fixture against mid-table Hapoel Kfar Sava and after taking on new coach Shiye Feigenbaum, perhaps the team will also see a

change of fortunes. Feigenbaum has the knack of inspiring his charges to perform well, but even if they do win, a move off the bottom of the table appears very unlikely this week-

This weekend's National League minth round fixtures (all matches kick off tomorrow at 14:30 unless stated): Happel Beit She'an vs. Zafiririn Holon, Beit She'an Maccahi Petah Tikva vs. Ironi

Risbon Lezion, Petah Tikva Hapoel Haifa vs. Hapoel Jerusalem, Kiryat Eliezer 15:00 Hapoel Beersheba vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv, Beersheba 18:00 Maccabi Herzliya vs. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Herzliya 15:00 Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Maccabi Haifa,

National Stadium 16:90

Retar Jerusalem vs. Hapoel Petah
Tikva, Teddy Stadium 17:45

Buel Yehuda vs. Hapoel Taiba,
Hatikva Quarter

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Jays, Pirates make 9-player trade he Pinsburgh Pirates continue to deal off eterans for prospects, trading second baseman arios Garcia, ourfielder Orlando Merced and itcher Dan Plesac to the Toronto Blue Jays

esterday for three minor leaguers and three layers to be named. The Pirates get right-handed pheners Jose Pett and Jose Silva and infielder Brandon Cromer, plus ie three players to be named.

Botham back with England Former-all rounder and captain Ian Botham is:

back on board with the England cricket team. Botham, who has been involved in media work since his retirement three years ago, has been asked to act as a technical adviser on the upcoming tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand. "I have wanted lan to be involved with us for some time," team coach David Lloyd said yesterday.

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Moussa downplays Israel's economic role in region

CAIRO

ISRAEL is no longer a central player in the region, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said yesterday at the Cairo economic conference's final press conference. Unlike the previous economic conferences in Casablanca and Amman, at Cairo Israeli hegemony gave way to a strengthening of relations among Arabs.

Moussa also had insisted that the closure in the territories appear in the summit's final communique. The communique outlined the hardships the Palestinians face under the

ISRAEL'S consul in Cairo is be allowed to meet

today with Azzam Azzam, the Maghar man arrested

in Egypt last week on suspicion of spying for Israel.

The visit was agreed upon during a meeting last night between Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister Yousef Wally and Assad Assad, Prime Minister Binyamin

Netanyahu's adviser on minorities and political

As soon as the police conclude their investigation, Wally said he would let Israel know what the exact

situation is. He told Assad he understands the consid-

"I told Wally I believe in Egyptian justice." Assad

Finance Minister Dan Meridor yesterday pledged to

continue pressing Egypt regarding Azzam's arrest.

erable Israeli concern for Azzam's welfare.



ongoing closure and called for its mmediate end on the basis of guaranteed security for all sides.

Israeli consul in Cairo

to meet with Azzam today

DAVID HARRIS

CAIRO

The statement also addressed the general economic needs of the Middle East, outlining the requirement for additional privatization and the cooperation of foreign business parmers.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor described the conference as highly successful, words supported by PA Planning and International Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath. However, those party to the final summit declaration were locked in discussions for most of yesterday, trying to agree on the wording of the statement.

Israeli government officials confirmed that there was disagree-

"We've done all we can on the diplomatic front."

Meridor said, "We have asked for our consul in Cairo

The Israeli government has checked into every possibility to establish whether Azzam was involved in

espionage but it is absolutely clear that he was not

working for any Israeli agency, a senior government

"Azzam is not an agent for any security arm," the source reiterated. "We have checked all avenues and

Azzam's family representative Ayoob Kara met US

State Department Peace Process and Regional Affairs

Director Paul E. Simons in a bid to persuade the US

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to be able to meet Azzam as soon as possible."

he is simply not involved in any way."

Batsheva Tsur contributed to this report.

to intervene on Azzam's behalf.

official said yesterday.



ment as to whether to include a reference to the closure. "They certainly didn't push said earlier in the day.

Israel has been doing business and the politicians have all held very positive meetings with their Arab colleagues, he said.

Most Israeli businesspeople here. said they succeeded in meeting Arabs and others, with some bringing Saudi Arabian guests with them to an official lunch hosted by Israel.

One of those who called for widespread participation from Israel's business community, Koor CEO Benny Gaon, said, "Overall I am happy, but one or two things did not go so well. I'll only talk about

them when we're back in Israel." Israel's regional project coordinator, Yossi Vardi, meanwhile, said there is general satisfaction among participants from all countries "despite the conference start-

ing on two left feet." However, the Labor Party's representative at the summit, Ephraim Sneh, said there was a gloom overshadowing the event.
"Israel was pushed aside," he

said. "It's very sad Israel has lost its leading economic role in the Middle East." He added that an IDF withdraw-

al from Hebron would not auto-

PA misses out the most on Cairo's opportunities

WITH another business conference concluded, the suits headed for the airport and the organizers began removing all the paraphernalia that has adorned the huge Cairo international conference

center these past three days. Farewell handshakes and smiles abounded, as the last of the dwindling supply of business cards were distributed.

Yet, throughout the conference one thing stood out as being abnormal - the almost total absence of the Palestinian business community, which should have been one of the main players in the conference. As a result, the Palestinian Authority missed many of the opportunities available at the regional gathering.

DAVID HARRIS

This was readily apparent at the stalls where each country sold itself by distributing glossy brochures. The Israeli stall was staffed by senior government officials, who facilitated meetings between Israeli and foreign businesspeople. Just yards away, the PA stall was staffed by junior officials and Planning Minister Nabil Shaath and Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Maher Masri. The two ministers offered business advice and then ran to make speeches in plenary sessions, immediately returning to the stall.

One Israeli businessman asked

them if they won't help them-

Masri said he was disappointed by the lack of Palestinian participation, but added he understands the decision to stay away.

When Shaath appeared on a huge television screen in the press center, only one Asian journalist watched. Several hundred other journalists in the room paid no attention to Shaath as he talked of investments, industrial parks and future economic development in

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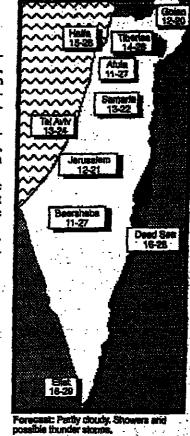
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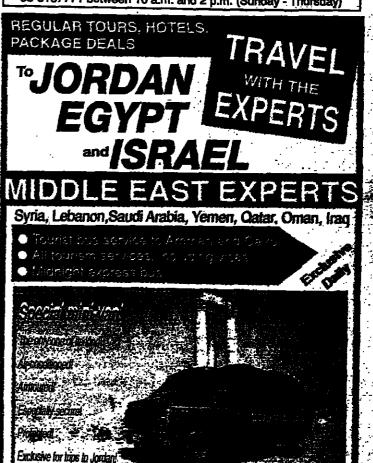
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Tickets: Members - NIS 175, Non-members NIS 200° Reservations with remittances should be addressed to IBCA; c/o Isrotel, 29 Rehov Hamered, Tel Aviv 68125 to the attention of Mrs. Frida Peled. Frida will answer telephone enquiries on 03-5197771 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sunday - Thursday)



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09.00, on Channel 2 and on Telemesser. The winners of the other prizes will be published in the papers.

